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Devoted to the Interests of the Cultivators of the Soil in the Mississippi Valley.

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THE VALLEY FARMER

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ADVERTISING.—The outside pages of the Valley Farmer are appropriated to advertisements, which will be inserted at the following rates:—One square of 12 lines, first insertion \$1, subsequent insertions, 50 cents each. Cards of six lines or less inserted for \$4 a year.

HORTICULTURAL FESTIVAL.

We take great pleasure in laying before our readers a full report of the proceedings at the Festival of the St. Louis Horticultural Society, on the 19th Sept. For this report, furnished us in type, we are indebted to the kindness of Messrs. Chambers & Knapp, of the Missouri Republican, who incurred the expense of sending a short hand reporter to the Festival, to prepare a full account of the proceedings.

Our paper was prepared and sent to the press some days previous to the celebration, but an unfortunate accident occurred, by which several pages were thrown into "pi," and since that time a severe attack of chills and fever has prevented

from doing any thing towards replacing the missing matter. We feel, therefore, under double obligations to our neighbors for their kindness in this instance.

The public will have on this occasion an excellent opportunity of seeing what the soil and climate of this vicinity is capable of producing, under skilful management, as it is the intention of the gardeners and fruit-growers to bring in their choicest specimens for the inspection of the company. We believe no part of the Union can exceed ours in the capacity for producing choice fruits and vegetables; and we apprehend that this display will show that some of our citizens are fully aware of our advantages in this respect, and by combining science with the bounteous provisions of nature, are enjoying the richest and choicest blessings which come in the train of the twin-sisters, Pomona and Flora.

The Society which provided this entertainment, and whose members designed to make it a day of social re-union and friendly intercourse of themselves and their families, is highly worthy the encouragement and support of the community. Its objects are to advance and benefit its members and others in every thing that pertains to horticulture; to encourage the introduction and cultivation of choice fruits and flowers; to analyze the soil, and point out its deficiencies and redundancies; to investigate the causes of failure of certain articles, and learn the best means of success in all; to promote an appreciation of good fruit, and by its plentiful introduction, to drive the worthless trash out of the market.

The St. Louis Union learns from those engaged in taking the census of St. Louis, that the population will not be far from 90,000. This will surely indicate a tremendous growth.

The sentiments expressed in the subjoined letter, have been uttered in our hearing almost every day since we commenced the publication of the *Valley Farmer*, and yet how many farmers in our great valley neglect to avail themselves of the advantages proffered to them by the perusal of our paper: and how few of those who do take and read it, ever think of sitting down and writing an article for its pages! And yet it is very certain that one of the principal means by which the conductor of an agricultural paper can make his publication useful to his readers, is by giving the details of the experiences, experiments, and observations of those actually engaged in the work of cultivation. Now, we can obtain these facts only in one of two ways. We must either go out among the farmers, converse with them, note down the important facts and ideas communicated, and give them to our readers; or else the farmers themselves must communicate these matters to us, that we may publish them to the community. Now it will not do to rely upon the former method, because if we should neglect all our other duties, and spend our whole time in traveling from farm to farm, we should not be able to visit a tithe of those farmers from whom we could learn much that is new, useful, and entertaining. We love to go among the farmers; to talk with them; witness their improvements; look into their way of managing. We always return to our "wilderness of brick and mortar" from such visits, more than ever in love with the farmer's life, and more than ever impressed with the dignity and importance of his calling. We would like to go out oftener and farther; and whenever the patronage of the *Farmer* will permit us to do so, we shall most assuredly pay our respects to many more of our respected farmer friends. But it will never do to wait for this. The farmers must communicate to us such facts or opinions as seem to them important; and every reader of the *Farmer* should seriously ask himself if he cannot do something to help along the good cause of agricultural improvement.

"But," says one, "I cannot write; I have nothing to write about. I have raised no extraordinary crops, can tell of no successful experiment, and have no wonderful horse, or cow, or pig, or chicken to brag of." My dear sir, have you not the book of nature wide open before you, with its every page replete with instruction, and can you not draw from it something to interest and instruct your brother farmers? If I should visit you at your homes, or meet you in the market, and engage you in conversation, you could talk fast enough; and there are very few who could not communicate much valuable information in a half hour's conversation. Now writing is but talking on paper,—so that the man who can talk well can write well if he chooses. It is not necessary, moreover, that you should tell

any thing wonderful. The lessons by the way side of every day life—your disappointments, as well as your successes; any thing that interests you to talk about, we shall be interested in hearing about, and it is just the kind of matters that will make our paper interesting to our readers:—

To the Editor of the *Valley Farmer*:

Libertyville, Iowa, Aug. 12, 1850.

Dear Sir,—I have been taking your paper for two years, and have not paid for it yet; but I send herewith two dollars to pay for vols. one and two. I have been trying to get my neighbors to take it, but they seem to know all they desire to. For my own part, I would not be without it for ten dollars a year. The only true method for farmers to improve is by throwing their knowledge all together, and thus all have a chance to know the best plans for farming. I will do what I can to give circulation to the *Valley Farmer*.

Yours, very respectfully,

Romance about Bees.

Some months ago, we published a little article from the *Maine Farmer*, in which the writer took occasion to question some of the commonly received opinions in respect to the sex of what is commonly termed the "queen bee," the sex, habits, and manner of death of the "drones," etc. Since that time we have been looking into the matter as we have had opportunity, and at the risk of being laughed at for our absurdity, must beg leave to differ entirely with the popular theories on the subject, and express our convictions that the bee family is organized on the same principles as other living things; that the number of males and females is about equal in each community; that the drones are females, and the mothers of the hive, who, after acting their part, by perpetuating their species, yield up their lives in a natural manner, and are then removed by the live bees from the hive; and that the "queen," whether male or female, is simply the ruler or governor of the community,—obtaining his power by some process well known among themselves, and exercising just so much of it as may be necessary to the well-being of the family. The striking down of the leader of the bees, when the swarm is on its flight, creates no more confusion among them, than does the shooting of the leader of a flock of wild geese create among them,—and can any one tell us how this latter official obtains his power?

We have noticed that bees never swarm when they have space enough to work in, and that a hive which, placed in a small box, would swarm two or three times, and of course produce as many "queens," in a large box or house would not

swarm at all, and of course no queens would be produced. Does not this show that this insect obtains its eminence by some other means than the arbitrary laws of birth?

Mr. T. B. Minor, of Oneida county, N. Y., has published a very valuable little treatise on the management of bees, entitled the "American Bee-Keeper's Manual," which so far as the directions for the treatment of these little workies is concerned, is worthy of attention. But we notice some of his late communications to the *Genesee Farmer*, on the character and habits of the bee which to our notion are pure speculation. The following article, for instance, appears to us as complete *gammon* as ever issued from the public press.

DRONES.—The objects and uses for which drones were created have been a mystery, to some extent, through all ages. The opinions of naturalists and apiarians have ever clashed on this subject. Some have thought that their duty was to incubate, or hatch the eggs, by sitting over the cells, thereby generating the necessary heat. Others, that their presence in the hive, though not located to any specific duty, was requisite to generate a proper degree of animal heat to develop the young brood. Others, that a seminal aura exhaled by them and attached to the eggs, imparted the life principle. The visionary theories and vagaries of the ignorant were, and are to the present day, wild and extravagant, some ascribing to them this duty, some that duty, and some no duty at all, but simply considering them a disadvantage to the welfare of the apiary, and the sooner got rid of the better.

Of late years more light has dawned on this subject, and it is now pretty well settled that the use of drones is solely to impregnate the queens. It has ever been known that they were *males*: but the fact that five hundred or one thousand of them exist in every hive, threw another cloud of mystery over the matter, since but one female exists. Now the solution of this mystery is thus unfolded:—The impregnation of the queen takes place *on the wing*. She never leaves the hive after issuing with a swarm but once, until she again issues the next season with a swarm. This solitary departure from the hive is always within three days after the hiving, and generally the next day, and only occurs with *young* queens,—the old ones being impregnated on their first issue continue operative for life. If any one will patiently watch a hive in which a swarm is placed, with a young queen (all swarms after the first) he may discover her issuing, first rising a few feet and taking a short circle, and then returning, as if to mark well her tenement, lest she enter a wrong hive on her final return, if there be others,—then suddenly re-issuing and rising in horizontal elongated circles, until lost to the sight. The departure takes place between 12 M. and 2 P.

M., at the time when the drones issue and also take an arial flight. Hundreds of drones are flitting to and fro at this period, high on the wing, and the queen cannot fail to come in contact with some of them, and thus effect the object of her flight. She is absent from the hive about an hour. That coition takes place on the wing, is evident from the well-known fact that humble bees perform their amours in this way, and most if not all other winged insects. The great apparently useless number of males in this case is only in accordance with the wisdom of Nature in providing enough to always ensure the fertility of a queen, as the prosperity of the colony depends upon her immediate fertility. Much may be said in further illustration of this subject, but my limits here forbid it.

RING WORMS.—The Editor of the *Plow, the Loom, and the Anvil* furnishes the following receipt, which he says is infallible for the cure of ring worm:

"Heat a shovel to a bright red—cover it with grains of Indian corn, press them with a cold flat iron. They will burn to a coal, and exude an oil on the surface of the flat iron, with which rub the ring worm, and after one or two applications it will be killed as dead as Julius Caesar."

A little white ashes taken from the hearth, in the palm of the hand, then moistened with spittle and rubbed over the part affected, will kill it just as expeditiously and effectually as the corn oil, and with much less trouble—so says the Editor of the *Valley Farmer*.

Encouragement of Agriculture.—We have read with pleasure the remarks of Mr. Johnson, of Tennessee, in the House of Representatives on the Encouragement of Agriculture by free grants of land to actual settlers in the new territories of the West. Mr. J. gave his views on the subject of land reform, and although sneered at by some members, they are in accordance with the republican spirit of the age. Mr. Johnson very properly read extracts from the messages of Andrew Jackson, teaching a liberal disposition of the public lands. That great man, in his message of 1832 said among other significant things on this topic, that he was persuaded that the time had come when the idea of deriving revenue from the public domain should be abandoned, and that the lands should be parcelled out to actual settlers at the mere cost of superintending the survey of them.—*Manchester Democrat*.

The following excellent toast was given at Worcester, Mass., on the 4th of July:

The Farmer—His quiet sleep, his manly step, and his glorious appetite, demonstrate that nature's favorite child is the one who clings most closely to his mother.

Saxony and Merino Sheep.

At the N. Y. State Fair, last season, a discussion was held upon "Sheep and Sheep Husbandry," which we find published in the Transactions of the Society. We make a few extracts:

Mr. Curtis, of Columbia county, said that he had been a wool-grower for twenty years. About fifteen years ago, he commenced to cross the Saxony on the Merino breed, and had continued that course ever since. His flock was composed entirely of ewes, and yielded him an average of from three and one quarter to three and one half pounds to the fleece. So far as his individual interests were concerned, he had found it best to pursue that course, though after all he was satisfied that if a man applied himself to one steady course of breeding, it was, perhaps, not so much matter what it was, so long as he profitted by it. It was this eternal changing and shifting which ruined almost every man who attempted it. They would find, at a particular time, one particular kind of wool most in demand, and would go into that; and when the demand had failed, they would lay it aside and go into something else. The true course was the pursuit of one regular, steady system. Such at least was the result of his experience. The form and fleece of the sheep could be changed, though it was not an easy matter, and one requiring a great deal of attention to ensure success. He had been crossing the Escurial Merino with fine Saxony bucks, and the result was they were brought very nearly to Saxony sheep.

Mr. C. was satisfied it was best to use fine bucks on coarse ewes. He had tried both plans, and this was his experience. His plan was to get the heaviest Saxony bucks he could find. As for what was called the improved plain Merino, they would not do for him: he would not give a dollar a piece for all that could be offered him.

Mr. Sanford, of Orwell, Vt., had done something in sheep-growing, and thought that where the right kind of sheep were bred, it was a very nice business. There were a great many points on which he did not fully agree with the gentleman last up. He thought the true course was a medium one—not breeding grades either too coarse or too fine, but observing some regard to the different locations and sections in which they were bred. To be a successful breeder, he believed one must first look at the constitution, then at the quality and then at the quality of the wool, and that it was all these, combined and united, which alone could ensure a man success. To unite these successfully, all must see, was indeed a very nice business. For himself, he commenced the business first with Merino sheep, in 1848, procured from Mr. Jewett's flock. He bred them for several years, crossing them with nothing else, for he had never found any better

breed than that of Mr. Jewett. After several years his sheep degenerated, growing feeble, &c., when he made a cross from Mr. Atwell's, of Connecticut, Merino sheep. Mr. S. bred Merino sheep wholly, and he had improved them very much, in this way, in their constitution, and the quantity and quality of their fleeces. His flock generally yielded over four pounds to the fleece—never less than that. Without disparaging Saxony sheep, he thought the Merino grades better for Vermont growers. Profit he supposed to be the object of every breeder, and he had certainly found the Merino the most profitable for him. One of his neighbors was rearing Saxony sheep, and he did not think he made as much money as those did who used the Merino.

Mr. Scovel, of Salisbury, Conn., commenced the business in 1824, on the first importation of Saxony sheep. Part of his flock at that time was not full blooded, and he did not get it entirely pure until some ten years since,—now it was composed of entirely pure full blooded Saxony sheep. Gentlemen were prejudiced in favor of their own mode of growing, and perhaps he participated in the same feeling, but he would state what was his system. Raising his flock as he had stated, his wool had averaged in weight by the flock, (he never sheared any thing but ewes and ewe lambs,) from two to two pounds six or seven ounces. His bucks he sold. From 1830 to 1837, he sold his wool at a dollar a pound, and from that time to the present, for from 70 to 80 cents. The growing of Saxony sheep required more attention than the Merino. It was necessary, in his opinion, that all sheep should be properly housed, whatever might be their grade, but Saxony sheep particularly. Of this last description there were a great many grades, and he did not wonder that many wool growers had become out of patience with growing some kinds of grades. The feeble constitutioned Saxony sheep he would not advise any one to go into. His were the thick close wooled sheep, of short legged, compact, handsome form, and in these particulars he was satisfied there was not a flock in the country that would compare with them. Their present excellence was only attained by the closest attention. Four years ago he crossed with some of the best sheep in the country, keeping them in different flocks and separate families.

At the same time he imported nine Saxony bucks from Germany, and his family had been greatly improved by that cross, and were much larger than his old stock. He thought the pure Saxony to be of much larger bodies than any Merino he had ever seen, and of stronger constitution. Some of his bucks last year sheared in the dirt without washing, and which of course is no criterion to judge, from 12 to 16 pounds. After washing the yield was from 5 1-2 to 6 pounds. He would not advise people to go into Saxony

wools unless it was "fancy Saxony." He would advise them to go into no breeds of sheep that would come into competition with the grades of wool of this country. For years he had been in the habit of buying wool largely in western New York, and his wool averaged as much as theirs, which most of it was a cross of Saxony and native sheep. He had always been enabled to sell his stock sheep and surplus at a large price, and that probably had given him more encouragement than had he been in receipt merely of the value of the wool, though he believed if he had not sold them his wool would have brought him more by the flock than any he had ever seen. As for Merino wool, he had bought a great deal of it, and thought it better for the grower than for the manufacturer. He found that when it was cleansed and got ready for the card, there was not much more left of it than of a fleece of a Saxony sheep in the same order.

Mr. S. said that the Merino wool, even that which looked white and clean, if rubbed a little between the fingers, it would most always be the case that oil in drops would be yielded from it. He knew not why it was so, but such at all events was his observation. So far as his experience was concerned, the wool of western New York was too much of a mixture—a class neither one thing nor another. Wool that sold this year at 30 to 32 cents would not weigh more than from one to two pounds eight or ten ounces to the fleece, yielding but a small income, when higher grades would have done better. So far as keeping sheep was concerned, he had sometimes bought sheep of other grades and kept them in flocks by themselves, for the purpose of experiment, and the result was that he believed he could keep three Saxony sheep at the same expense as two Merinos. He thought there was certainly that amount of difference in the same amount of feed. And take a flock of sheep like our native sheep, and they would not live six months in the same flock with the Saxony sheep, feeding them the same. He kept from 1,500 to 2,000 sheep, and he never found any equal to the Saxony. He found it necessary to house his sheep in winter, and he believed that many farmers lost a great amount of wool and sheep by letting them run about exposed. From the first hard storms in November, he put them up, and did not let them out again till grass came. His sheds were furnished with running water in winter as well as summer. The wool therefore was kept perfectly dry and not subject to rot and other deficiencies incident to exposure to the wet, and a quarter less hay was also required to keep them. His neighbors at first prophesied that his sheep would become diseased and die from being thus housed, but instead of that they grew well and thrifty, and so far from being diseased were in perfect health during the winter. Now his neighbors

coincided with him in the opinion that the only true course was to shut them up. He put them in buildings 35 feet square, in flocks of 150. He had them fitted up with racks and mangers, so as to feed them with whatever he felt disposed, with salt if required. This plan he would recommend to every farmer, whatever might be his breed of sheep. There were some farmers whose sheep die off in the spring, with, as some supposed, grub in the head or some other place. There is great difficulty, also with others, who, being exposed all winter, had got the snuffles and the consumption. All sheep had the worm in the head, but, kept up as they ought to be, they turs out ten or fifteen per cent. better than those exposed to the storms and weathdr. Any dealer in wool can tell a fleece from a sheep that has been housed in a moment. The ends of the fleeces exposed to the cold storms do not look like wool but like felt; and when put in the mill, being dead, work off, and are an entire loss to the manufacturer. His lambs grew better in winter than in summer,—he never lost more than one or two sheep in winter, his losses were in the summer, and then generally only by accident.

Mr. Howard wished to add a few remarks in reference to the grub in the head of sheep. He had examined the heads of many sheep, and in all of them had found the presence of worms, and the result was he had never seen any thing to induce the belief that sheep died of grub in the head. Several years ago there was a great mortality among sheep in Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine, which was ascribed to grub in the head. He made a very extensive examination, and in almost every instance it was evident they had died of the liver rot. Believed grub in the head could not produce death; he had found the worm in all its stages, even to the chrysalis, in the heads of healthy sheep. As to the best kinds of sheep, that depended on their location and management. It was better, he believed, to have more than one kind. A proper way to decide the question would be a course of regular experiments, by which the cost of keeping of each of the various kinds of sheep could be tested and compared. It was evident from our growing population, which had to be fed, that mutton is becoming an important staple, and this coupled with the fact that different kinds of wool were required, would make the raising of mutton as profitable and perhaps more so, than any other kind of business. The wool of either South-down or common sheep was worth from 25 to 28 cents, and weighed generally from three to three and a half pounds per fleece. Long wools were required for various kinds of worsteds and carpets, and the wool from this variety of sheep was worth from twenty-five to twenty-eight cents, and their fleeces averaged from five to six pounds.

From the American Phrenological Journal.

A New, very Cheap, and Durable mode of Building.

Nature makes ample provision for supplying every want of all her creatures. The demand for a HOME is a primary, and one of the paramount requisitions of every living thing; and the higher the creature, the more imperious this demand. Of course mother nature, in her ample supply of all the necessities of all her children, has by no means omitted to supply ALL MANKIND amply with the materials for constructing themselves good houses: while Phrenology points out, in its discovery of the constructive instinct, an ample provision for manufacturing these materials into comfortable dwellings. To what, then, does nature point as her leading material for the structure of buildings, both for household and other purposes?

Not to Wood: because her economy is to crowd upon the earth's surface just so many human beings as she can possibly feed, whereas, to appropriate so much land to the growth of timber, as will, in all coming time, be requisite for building purposes, would curtail the number of human beings, for the more land there is appropriated to timber, the less food can be raised.

Besides, timber is perishable, so that it will take a great amount of land merely to repair and rebuild dilapidated structures, to say nothing of creating new ones.

If it is objected that our timber grows on wild land, not needed for agricultural purposes, I reply this is true now, but will not be a hundred, or certainly a thousand years hence: for by that time existing woodlands will all be cut off, and also wanted for agricultural purposes, for whatever land will grow building timber will raise edibles.

Nor is it the order of nature that a house should be every day rolling down over our heads, nor need repairing every few years. Nature has, undoubtedly, in providing for this home instinct, created some imperishable building material, and indestructible by fire. Wood can not, therefore, be her primary provision.

Brick is better, yet is liable to many objections. It is too dear. Poor people cannot afford to build with it. Besides, it takes a regular mason to lay them, whereas nature has obviously provided for every man to build his own house, just as to rear his own fruit, food, etc., eat, breathe, exercise, etc., for himself, and after his own fashion.

Clay, sun-dried, in large square blocks, is doubtless one of nature's building materials, but of this it is not our present purpose to speak.

LIME is obviously one of nature's first provisos for building. Cheap, abounding almost everywhere, various in quality, such as water lime of various kinds, etc., indestructible by fire, water, or frost, growing harder with age, and possessing extraordinary cohesive power, together with ma-

ny other like valuable properties, who can doubt that it should enter largely into building materials? And so it does. Yet I opine far less than nature designs it should. Mixed with sand it makes mortar which becomes nearly as hard as brick, or even stone, and the older the harder, and the coarser the sand used, the stronger the mortar. Yet it is used mainly to put together brick, stone, etc. But why not use mortar alone, and run it into such shapes as suits our liking? Why not use coarse gravel, and even pebble stones, just as we now use sand, mix them with lime, and put this gravel mortar into our walls, and even compose our walls, outside and in, of this material? It is solid, indestructible by fire, frost, and water, lasts for ages, is "cheap," easily made, can be put up by any one, and be run into whatever shape we like. Can there, then, be a reasonable doubt that this is, after all, nature's great building material? Every thing about it says, "This is just the thing."

And recent experience confirms this verdict. J. Goodrich, of Milton, Wisconsin, formerly of Alleghany county, N. Y., living on a prairie, and thinking that nature had provided other building material where timber is thus scarce, knowing that under the prairie soil and subsoil, which is about three feet deep, there was coarse, clean gravel, and often gravel banks, and, also, that lime abounded throughout the West, reasoned with himself thus, "Why will not this coarse gravel and lime make good walls?" and reduced the reasoning to a practical trial. I have seen him and examined this mode of structure thoroughly, and pronounce it, in my judgment, every way better than either brick or wood, and yet not one fourth as expensive. The principal expense consists in drawing the materials and lifting the mortar into the walls. Sand abounds almost every where, and can be got—especially coarse gravel—for nothing; and lime is cheap, say twelve to fifteen cents per bushel, unslacked. In this way, one bushel of lime serves for twenty bushels of gravel, so that 100 bushels of lime will put up 2100 bushels of mortar, or some 2,500 cubic feet of wall, which, supposing your wall is one foot thick—enough, doubtless, for all practical purposes—would build the outside walls of a house thirty feet square and twenty feet high; and if the inside walls were eight inches thick, and run through the house each way, one to form the entry and the other to divide the house into front and back rooms, it would take only about thirty bushels more, or 130 bushels in all, at a cost of less than twenty dollars! And how many days' work is it likely to require to slack this lime and shovel the gravel into it, and stir up the two together—for no working is needed, only mixing—and carry it up into the walls? There are about 3300 cubic feet of mortar. Cannot a man mix and carry up, on the average, one hundred cubic feet per

day? I should think he could double this, yet at this rate the naked walls would cost thirty-three dollars for labor—and the commonest laborer can do it—supposing labor to be one dollar per day; and say, perhaps, seventeen dollars for lime, or only fifty dollars. The chimneys can be carried up in the wall, as is now done in brick walls, and with trifling additional labor, and with no additional cost of brick and mortar. The walls of a good sized dwelling-house were put up in Elgin, Ill., last year, for about forty dollars, as I was informed by a Mr. Quigley, who was then building a church in that place.

"But will it stand?" ask many, half convinced that there may be something in this mode. Milton Academy, the first building put up in this way, has now stood, without anything on the outside of it, some six years; and not only without the least sign of decay, but becomes harder and stronger every year, which is known to be true of all good mortar. I examined the second building put up in this way—a blacksmith shop—with the following result: Finding a flint pebble stone—one of the hardest kinds of stone—of the size of a turkey's egg, which came out to the outer edge of the wall, I took a hammer and flaked off piece after piece, till I had clipped away two thirds of the stone, meanwhile the balance retained its position unmoved! I then drew my hammer—and it was a heavy one—repeatedly, as hard as I could strike, upon the wall, making scarcely more indentation than upon a stone; so that I was compelled to regard the walls as even more solid than brick. Mr. Goodrich said that for six cents per blow he would let a man pound with a sledge upon his parlor walls, and let any one bang away on his blacksmith shop till they were tired, and added that many had done so. Readers will remember that I am stating what I myself saw and know to be true. So certain am I of success, that though my timber was ordered for the house of my life, to be built nearly on the principle mentioned in my "Home for all," yet I consider this so much cheaper and better that I have countermanded the order except for the floor timbers, and by the time this article will be read, shall be putting up my walls of lime, sand, and broken up slate stones, after the plan developed in this article.

In traveling through Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan, I saw probably one hundred houses and some fences—for this is doubtless the best and cheapest mode of fencing prairies—built in this way, and, properly put up, they look well from the road, without any thing put upon the outside, but, finished off with a coat of lime and sand, which can be marbled and colored, they look splendidly—far better than either wood or brick. Yet this marbleing and coloring can be done years after the structure is completed, as well as at first.

Some of the houses I saw were cracked, of course because the foundation was defective, and brick or stone will crack under like circumstances. That these cracks were not necessary to this mode of structure is evident, because only two or three of those I examined were thus affected. One part of the foundation having settled, of course no alternative remained but to crack. Yet such cracks do less damage than in brick houses, and are easily covered up, and can do no real injury to the strength of the edifice. The partition walls, it must be observed, go up at the same time, and tie the whole building together.

By this process no lathing is needed, except overhead, for the plastering is slapped right upon the walls inside and out. Yet as these walls are conductors of both heat and cold, as well as moisture, the outside walls should be carried up with an open space within them, for dead air, or else be furrowed, lathed, and plastered inside; yet this is a detail to which the mason can attend, as he likes:

Below is an account from Mr. Goodrich himself, its inventor. After I have tried it, I shall give you the result in a future number of the Journal.

GRAVEL OR CEMENT BUILDINGS.

The following statement of the method and cost of constructing buildings of cement, has been kindly furnished us by Mr. J. Goodrich, who has had considerable experience in the business, being the builder and proprietor of the greater portion of the beautiful village of Milton, situated at the head of Prairie du Lac, in Rock county, Wisconsin. The success he has met with is known to many of our readers who have visited that section of the country, as he already has several fine dwellings, a tavern house, a large block of stores, an academy, and various other buildings completed, presenting a very pleasing appearance from their neat exterior, and giving the amplest evidence of the utility of cement in the construction of buildings of all classes:

"My buildings are made of clear, coarse, gravel, and common quick-lime. I use twelve parts of the former to one part of the latter; but if the former is free from dirt, soil, or clay, and the lime well burned or fresh, you cannot hit amiss, for it will cement in any proportion from one part of lime to one of gravel, to one part of lime to twenty parts of gravel. I prefer laying the foundation with stone laid in mortar, the same as for a brick house. The gravel walls are made of any thickness, according to the size and height of the house to be built. I have made the walls from ten to fifteen inches thick in my buildings. For curbing we use pine plank, straight grained, one and a half inches thick, and twelve inches wide, and have enough to curb all the walls around the building at once. The planks are held up by narrow strips of boards, set up endways and tacked with a nail to the plank at or near each end. The planks are held together by clamps made of pieces of scantling some two feet long, with strong pins put in far enough apart to include the thickness of the wall, and also the two curbing planks. These clamps are hung over the top edges of the planks, and said pins hang down on each side, to hold them together, while a small stick, as long as the wall is thick, is placed between the planks and immediately under the clamps, to hold the upper part of the planks apart. As the wall rises the lower edge of the planks lap on the form-

layers, so as to keep the bottom right. We use a plumb which is indispensably necessary, to carry up the wall true. The window frames and door frames ought to be as wide as the plank is thick, and about three inches thick, framed together, grooved and planed on the faced side to let in the stoppers to hold the sash and tabbed. For the doors to shut in they need no casing, which lessens the cost of finish very much. The joists are put into the wall as same as brick walls, hence you need no post sills or beams. I make flat roofs, so as to not need any plates or rafters, barely letting the joists give a pitch of half inch to the foot, which is sufficient to cause the water to run off. I nail onto these joists strait-edged pine boards, and plaster on two inches thick of gravel mortar, so as to make it fire proof. Then on the top of this, as soon as it becomes dry a coat of tar; then sift on sand, which makes it hard as it settles into the tar; then another coat likewise, and if it leaks, several coats of tar and sand until it is water tight. This soon becomes very hard and solid, and it is cheaper than any covering I have yet found, and apparently durable. I carry up the wall still higher than the roof, so as to carry a balustrade in any shape that taste may dictate. These walls are rough and uninviting to the eye, but can easily be made smooth and level by plastering on a coat of coarse sand and lime, say one of the latter to eight of the former and floated on to level up. Then a fine coat, say half lime and half sand, put on with the trowel and brush, which makes a hard finish for both outside and in. Then whitewash two or three coats, with fresh lime and you have a beautiful white finish which is both imposing and inviting to the eye.

"The cost of these walls will be about one third of the cost of brick; say from five to six cents per cubic foot, before they are plastered, including labor and material, board, etc., and they may be put up by any common laborer, if he can make the wall straight and plumb. If they are built in the early part of the season, and of good material, they are sure to stand; but they do not become hard like stone at once. This hardening process is slow but sure. The carbonic acid which is first driven off from the lime, by the burning in a kiln; returns through the atmosphere, in the same quantity, and re-unites with the lime in the wall, and this converts the lime into stone again; and as the gravel is stone, it of course all becomes stone or rock and will be as durable as time. In fact, you can break the pebbles of gravel with a hammer before it will loosen them from the walls."—Freeport Journal.

RAILROAD TO ST. LOUIS.—The citizens of Illinois are determined to continue our Rail-road from Terre Haute to St. Louis as soon as possible. Wm. M. Morrison (a son of Judge Morrison of this city) a civil engineer, is now locating the road, and expects to be ready to report as to its probable cost by the first of December.

The people along the contemplated route in Illinois are alive to the subject, and no doubt is entertained about their ability and willingness to prepare the road ready to receive the iron, within themselves.

That done, and there will be no difficulty in getting the iron.

This is an important movement for St. Louis as well as for all the country between Terre Haute and that city. The road from Terre Haute to this city will be completed within two years; the road from here to Bellefontaine will be done will be done within the same time.

From the St. Louis Republican.

FESTIVAL CELEBRATION OF THE ST. LOUIS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

In our capacity as reporter, we have frequently been called upon to attend the celebrations and *fetes* of various associations and societies, organized for the public good, but within our recollection have never participated in one so complete, so bountiful in every arrangement, as the dinner of the Horticultural Society, given Thursday afternoon, at Concert Hall. The table was loaded with the choicest viands and decorated in a very tasteful manner with bouquets and flowers. If Pomona, Flora and Ceres had been invoked to aid in the arrangement, it could not have been more complete.

We would, if possible, particularise in a description of the appearance of the table and room, just previous to the introduction of the company to dinner, but where to commence, how to proceed and where we could get through, (in a limited space,) confounds our memory and stops the pen. There are matters, however, without going into a general description, of which we can speak, and that is the liberality of the members of the Horticultural Society, in furnishing from their choice productions the greater portion of the viands, &c, which loaded the tables; and would that we could even in this complete a list, without being deemed invidious. The members of the society, above all others, appreciate its benefits, and well know that by meeting together, producing specimens of various fruits and vegetables, and exchanging sentiments with each other respecting the culture, growth, character of soil, and its tendency to maturity, they derive incalculable benefit and improve by it, as is sufficiently denoted by their productions.

But we are digressing from the festival to other matters, although directly connected, may seem out of place.

So far as our notes give us information, we are enabled to speak of the following donations to the entertainment, by the members of the Society and one or two others:

EDWARD HARKN, Esq., Corresponding Secretary, furnished a dozen bottles of St. Louis Catawba wine, of excellent flavor and body, which by connoisseurs was pronounced of the first quality. Also a basket of fine grapes, and other articles of his culture.

MR. JAMES GLASGOW, furnished a half dozen bottles of his Catawba wine, of fine body and flavor, and the production of 1848. The feast was also supplied with five gallons of the same wine.

MR. SALISBURY furnished several brands of Yeatman's premium Cincinnati Catawba, which, although appreciated for its flavor, lacked the body of the other wines mentioned.

ALEXANDER KEYSER, Esq., furnished a half dozen bottles of his Hermann Catawba, and as to its quality, compared with Mr. HARKN's, connoisseurs disputed—Both brands are most elegant productions, and superior to any brought into our market. One thing to be relied on is, they are the pure juice, and no mistake.

Capt. D. B. HILL furnished two baskets of Catawba and Isabella grapes, of superior size and flavor.

Messrs. J. SIMMONSON & Bros. furnished a variety of vegetables, fruits and flowers. The former were superior to any we have ever seen. Their substantial veg-

etables need only to be tried to be properly appreciated.

Mrs. SIGERSON furnished specimens of blackberry and strawberry wine, of superior flavor and body.

Messrs. SALISBURY and THOMAS furnished a great variety of flowers and some of the finest bouquets in the room, which added greatly to the decoration of the table. Also, a sample of premium Cincinnati Catawba wine, and some fine specimens of green house plants.

Dr. GEMP furnished a fine selection of green house plants and bouquets, which were greatly admired.

THOMAS ALLEN, E-q., furnished fine specimens of pears, consisting of the orange Bourre and Bartlett; also superior Isabella and Catawba grapes; also apples of several superior varieties, and a number of beautiful bouquets.

Not by far the least ornamental to the table, and which in the latter part of the festival was more highly appreciated from a taste of it, was a very large cake from Mrs. EDWARD HAREN. It subserved a double purpose, in both of which it took admirably.

Mr. PADDLEFORD furnished a variety of grapes and plums, of superior qualities.

Mr. JAMES PAGE presented some fine specimens of celery and a great variety of cut flowers.

Mr. RIEHL furnished a variety of preserves and jellies, put up from superior fruit of his own production.

Mr. JAMES TURNER furnished a variety of pears, peaches and grapes, tastefully arranged in heaps, and more tastefully partook of at the close of the festival.

Mr. MARTIN presented a quantity of black Hamburg grapes, of superior quality.

Mrs. HENWOOD furnished a quantity of cake, pies, and sweetmeats.

Messrs. THOMAS & Co., and Mr. HILLIARD furnished baskets of peaches from orchards in the vicinity of Alton.

The President presented a bunch of seedling grape from Mr. MEYER, as a specimen raised by himself from the seed. They produce a new variety of grape, superior in flavor and quality to the Catawba.

There were various other additions to the feast, the growth and culture of the members, which we may have omitted. Suffice to say, the table was spread solely from home made productions, and would vie in quality with a selected collection from every part of our country.

About four o'clock, the arrangement of the table being completed, a company of about one hundred and fifty ladies and gentlemen were seated at dinner. THOMAS ALLEN, E-q., President of the Society, presided at the head, assisted by Gen. MILBURN, Vice President, at the left. On either side of the presiding officers the invited guests were seated. After an address to Divine Grace, by Rev. Mr. ELIOT, and music from the band, the company proceeded to discuss, by tasting, the quality of various luxuries spread before them. This part of the proceeding it was more agreeable to be engaged in than it is at our present writing to describe. Suffice, ample justice was given to the feast, and the board was cleared for sentiment. We may here remark, that previous to clearing the table, the disturbance of the very neat and bountiful arrangement which existed previous to seating the company, was scarcely perceptible, so ample was the provision made by the Society.

After music by the band, the President, in a few brief remarks, stated that the occasion was for the purpose of celebrating the anniversary of the St. Louis Horticultural Society, and in doing so, the company might expect to be taken through the courts of Flora and Pomona, to view their beauties and taste their sweets. He said that the Society, since its organization, had made steady progress onward, and its influence had been greatly extended and was accomplishing desirable ends. This influence was not to be seen on the public highway, nor does it exhibit itself in our markets: it was to be found in the improved taste manifested in the cultivation of fruits and flowers, in the planting of trees, and the manner in which the grounds were laid out and kept. The Society had contended with a great many disadvantages, and on this occasion, with its friends, it had come together to conspire for good purposes, and to extend an appreciation of its merits. The President then dilated at length upon the beneficial results to be accomplished by extending a knowledge of cultivation, such as is to be obtained by conversations in the Society and by its exhibitions. After speaking of various kinds of fruits, their qualities, and the adaptation of soil and climate for the culture of its kind, he concluded, and proceeded to read the following

REGULAR TOASTS.

1. *Horticulture*—The Parent of Agriculture, the art of arts, the union of the useful and the beautiful, "the inclination of kings and the choice of philosophers."

2. *The City of St. Louis*—The great mart of field and garden produce, the emporium of trade; she steadily advances to her destined rank of Empress city of the Valley.

Mayor KENNETT being called upon, said he regretted the city of St. Louis had not a more worthy representative to respond to the toast which had been read. He might make an excuse, but it would probably be such a good one as to give an impression that he was not good for any thing else. What he had seen to-day, in this hall, dispelled any dispute of the destiny of this great city, and showed conclusively that our horticulturalists were not behind those of any city. He could not doubt, from the display made to-day, that the God of the great had smiled upon their efforts. He concluded by offering the following sentiment:

The Horticultural Society of St. Louis—May its progress be onward, and its success commensurate with the great destiny of St. Louis.

The President then read the third regular toast:

Missouri—May she be as wise in government as she is wealthy in natural resources.

Lieut. Gov. PRICE being present, was called upon to respond. He hoped she might be as wise, and further hoped that this flourishing and improving Society may exercise an influence not only to be found in the city of St. Louis, but throughout this whole State. He would remark, in conclusion, that its influence now could only be felt, but he could say that in time the State of Missouri would be as wise as the city of St. Louis in its horticultural perfections.

The President then read the fourth regular toast:

4. *The Pulpit*—It tells us of the expulsion from the garden of Eden; may its mission be fulfilled and mankind reclaimed to Paradise.

Professor POST being called, responded in a few

[Continued on page 388]

From Moore's Rural New Yorker

Farming for Profit.

The object for which the farmer toils—for which he plows his land, and sows his seed, and endures the sultry labors of harvest time—is mainly the **PROFIT** which is expected as a result. The same object influences all classes of society, and it is proper that it should ever be considered—that in all undertakings this ultimate end be held steadily before us. In the important concerns of religion we are called upon to take this view of the subject—to ponder the solemn question, "What shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world yet lose his own soul?"—and we may consider in all cases, profit in the shape of good—of wealth, honor, and enjoyment—the legitimate reward of man's labor, bodily and mental, if wisely directed and employed for the furtherance of the objects of his existence.

If he who makes two blades of grass grow where but one grew before, is a benefactor of his race, then all the knowledge and skill which promote profitable farming are most wisely applied; and his is neither a low ambition or a degrading vocation, who seeks by honorable means—by his own toil, and skill in directing the paid labor of others—to make the most money from the acres he occupies. Nor is his labor useless and unworthy of regard, who seeks to give impulse and energy to this spirit in the mass of the agricultural community—who to the stirring music of profit, starts up the brisk march of progress and improvement.

Let us consider, then, some of the necessary preliminaries to profitable farming—for the farmer should be governed by reasonable rules, and established laws, as much as the merchant or manufacturer. He is in fact a manufacturer of meal and meat—of food and clothes, or the materials therefor—and should understand the nature of the products desired, and of his machines, or means for producing them. Otherwise he may attempt to grow crops very unsuitable to his soil, or use for grazing a field best adapted to the plow, as incongruously and unwisely as if some quack of a mechanic should attempt the manufacture of corn brooms by the help of a threshing machine, or to do blacksmithing with tools from a carpenter's bench. But nature adapts herself so kindly to the bungling husbandry of man, that the most ignorant laborer finds some profit from his daily toil, yet the hundred fold reward is only for him who works wisely as well as faithfully, and makes every stroke tell visibly in the aggregate result.

The profit of American farming is more than one-half lost by its shallow expansion—by so much ground being gone over in that slighting sort of a way which calls a thing done when only a show has been made of doing it. Let the labor now expended upon each hundred acres of land, be put upon twenty-five—directed by science and experience—and the aggregate wealth of the country would be doubled in one year. Let the other seventy-five have the like increased amount, and there would be no need of crowding into cities, until they become the hotbeds of poverty and crime—but

thousands more might live useful and happy lives instead of painful and degraded ones, in the beautiful, the God-made country.

Look at an individual case. Here is a farmer with one hundred and fifty acres of land, with a large family dependent upon its products for support, who, with himself and one hand through the year, and another for haying and harvest, carries it on after a fashion. Keeping considerable stock he has an opportunity of increasing his manure heap almost at pleasure, and the facilities, had he the labor and capital at command, for many profitable improvements. But by the time his spring crops are hurried in, hoeing comes on—before hoeing is concluded the harvest arrives,—the summer fallow is not properly prepared, and he must either really cultivate but a portion of his farm, or skim the whole over with a comparatively profitless result. He cannot find time or means for the improvement he finds so necessary, and hiring labor at a high price, as such men generally do, which consumes the surplus products, it is no wonder that, though seemingly wealthy, yet hard-pressed and poor, he should think a farmer's life a hard and profitless one.

The best course in this case would be, 1st—at any rate to undertake no more than could be done well; 2d—to hire and teach the foreign laborers who throng our shores. A city paper wisely remarks—"Our farmers nearly all cultivate their soil with too little labor, in other words they don't half cultivate it. A very common excuse is that labor is so scarce and so high that they cannot afford to have more of it. We believe this a great mistake, yet there is something in it. The prices of American labor are often quite as high as our slovenly system of half-farming will justify. But if our large farmers would acquire the habit of hiring one or two experienced, skillful Americans at liberal wages, and with them six or eight immigrants, who have willing hands but every thing to learn, and who could be had at comparatively low wages, because worth no more, the benefits would be general. The produce would be doubled; the immigrants would gain the instruction and information they so much need, and for want of which so many of them throw away the best years of their life in doing work badly, unskillfully and out of season on holdings of their own, and the American workers would be worth more than now, their skill and experience serving a wider purpose, and they could be paid more.

And third, as before hinted at, the knowledge of practical and scientific agriculture necessary to the most profitable result, must not only be known and understood, but carried out in the daily routine of the farm; applied in the field and the stable, and learning, reason, and research made use of even in the simple matter of raising stock, and tilling the soil.

If the Laboring Poor, who crowd the cities and seaports, toiling, when they can find work, for a mere pittance, were scattered over the land, and employed upon our farms, it would be better for all concerned. An Irishman or German who on landing here stops in the

city as a day laborer, or seeks employment on canals or railroad, will always be a laborer, dependent upon his wages and upon his success in finding constant employment, while he who hastens to the country and hires out upon a farm, will in a few years be able to purchase and stock a farm in the west, with skill to work it profitably, and he and his children will rise in dignity and respect, and prove true and worthy citizens of their adopted country. The farmer under whom they have served this apprenticeship will not only have benefitted his ignorant fellows, but has made their labor profitable to himself; has applied his own experience in practical operations, and has added to the wealth and prosperity of the nation.

In "farming for profit" the right thing must be done in the right way. True economy must be practiced—but not that which "saves at the spigot to waste at the bung-hole"—neglecting to make those improvements, and to give that thoroughness to every operation which pays so well in farming—or to see that in preparing the soil—in manuring—in the seed—in the cultivation, and in the use and marketing, all is attended to promptly, properly, and above all profitably. Let this be done, and we will vouch for the profit of farming. For the pleasantness of it, we need bring no argument, if the first is insured. Whatever is truly profitable, has an odor of pleasantness about it—and no occupation can be more favorable to happiness than that of the cultivator of his own broad acres, in this fertile and prosperous country.

B.

Improvements on the Farm.

The latter part of August and the fore part of September may be considered the most favorable part of the year for making improvements on the farm; at this season the earlier crops have been secured, the cultivation of the later ones has been finished, and the farmer is only waiting for their maturity. In addition to the comparative leisure which is thus afforded, there are other circumstances which render this a suitable period for such operations. The ground is generally drier than at any other time during the year, which permits the labor of men and teams on places which at other times are inaccessible from wetness. This is particularly favorable to the drainage of bogs, and to the excavation of peat or muck for manure. The growth of bushes and shrubs has also reached the particular crisis in which they may be more easily killed by cutting or bruising.

One of the first objects to which attention should be directed in the improvement of the farm, is the eradication of bushes and pernicious plants in fields, along lines of fences, roadsides, &c. These are not only great drawbacks upon the beauty of a farm, being unsightly to the eye, and conveying an unpleasant idea of careless and slovenly habits; but they are very detrimental to the pecuniary interests of the farmer.

They draw nourishment from the ground which should go to the support of valuable plants, and by propagating themselves, are constantly increasing and spreading the

injury. Thistles, docks, briars and thorns, are often allowed to flourish unmolested in the situations mentioned. On the borders of fields they occupy the richest of soil, and annually extend their encroachments. They are not unfrequently seen in good lands, that are devoted to various crops, and in pastures are quite common—many farmers being apparently regardless of their presence and effects. The great extent of ground that is occupied by these worthless pests is a dead loss; but besides this, grass and other crops are robbed of moisture by them during drouth, and at other times are soured and diminished in growth by their shade and roots.

It should be an invariable rule with the farmer, to prevent all injurious plants from seeding. This will at all events keep them from spreading—except such as increase by the root. Annual or biennial thistles are easily destroyed by being cut while in blossom and before any seed is matured; and even Canada thistles may be destroyed by following up this course for several seasons in succession. They should be cut close to the ground, and just at that juncture when fullest in bloom. A few will start which if untouched will produce seed in Autumn; but this second crop should be cut without fail, when in the same stage as the first. The readiest and most effectual mode of destroying Canada thistles, where they occupy ground that will admit of cultivation is by frequently working the soil with the plow, or some implement that will entirely prevent the growth of the top. No plant can bear to be deprived of its leaves for a long time, and if thistle patches are worked over so often as to prevent the plant from appearing above ground, they will be mostly killed in one season.

Docks and mullens may be pulled up any time before they take seed, though it will be most convenient to pull them after they have shot into stalk. Those which break off may be dug up with a mattock. If cut off two or three inches below the surface, they will not start. The eyes or beds from which shoots proceed, are situated near the crown of the plant. If not cut below these they will grow. The yellow dock is an exceedingly troublesome plant in grain fields and meadows, and should be exterminated as soon as it makes its appearance, as it spreads very rapidly from the seed. The burdock only grows in rich soil, but is frequently allowed to monopolize some of the best portions of the farm. When the sheep are allowed to run among them in the fall of the year, the burs adhere to the wool, and occasion much injury by matting it.

Briars and other bushes should be cut the latter part of August. They have then finished their new growth and the sap is about to "turn," as the expression is—that is, a new set of buds is to be prepared for another year, and the new wood is to be ripened and perfected. If cut at this period, but few sprouts are sent up, and those few are easily bruised to death with a stout stick, while tender, or at the time when frost checks their growth. If sheep are kept on the ground, they will if feed is rather short, crop the sprouts as soon as they appear and if permitted to keep them down for two sea-

sons the roots will be principally killed. It is an advantage to sow on some grass seed—blue grass or red top—as soon as the bushes have been cut or burned. The seed will take root with the first shower, and the growth of the grass will tend greatly to smother down the sprouts of the bushes. As with thistles, it is important that the bushes be cut close to the ground.

The reclamation of waste lands generally, but especially those of a wet and swampy nature, may be prosecuted with advantage at this season of the year. With these drainage is the first object. The water which appears in the form of a spring should be cut off by deep channels along their sources, and these channels should convey the water to such points as will best insure its discharge from the land. As the water is taken away the soil will settle, more or less and this settling will facilitate further operations in several ways. The solidity acquired will admit of taking on teams for getting out stones, stumps and bushes, and all such objects as are left by the settling of the earth, mostly on the surface, from which they may be removed.

The "swamp holes," which, like plague spots disfigure the surface of the farm, forming the breeding place of worthless plants and disgusting reptiles, and filling the atmosphere with the seed of human disease, may often be brought to profitable cultivation. They frequently comprise the richest parts of the farm, as is proved by the large crops they produce when redeemed from the effects of stagnant water and wild plants. They are particularly natural to grass, and when properly prepared by drainage, the wild growth exterminated, and the surface properly smoothed, may be brought into valuable meadows by mowing the grass seed about the first of September. Timothy and the large red top are the best grasses for such situations; a peck of the former, with a half a bushel of the latter, (according to its cleanliness) is the proper quantity for an acre. It may be scratched on with rakes, or by a bush harrow.

Peat bogs, drained, may be made to produce good crops of many kinds; but grain crops and grass are very liable to lodge down on peaty soils. This is owing in a great degree to the want of silex in the soil, and in some degree also to the soil being too loose to give the plants a firm standing on their roots. The application of sand or gravel remedies both defects and when the mineral substance is well incorporated with the vegetable matter, the straw becomes stiff, and the crops stand and mature well. The quantity of sand which it is expedient to apply, varies with the composition of the peat soil, some containing much more mineral earth than other deposits. A coating of an inch or two in depth, will however be sufficient in most cases, it may be carted on in winter when most farming operations are suspended.

Peat to be used in the barn yard, for mixing with animal manure, should be dug out at this season, and piled on dry land, where it may be obtained as wanted. In this situation the air and rains gradually dissipate the acid which the peat contains when in its natural bed

and which must be dispelled or neutralized before the peat can afford nourishment to plants.

Digging rocks (boulders) from grounds encumbered by them, may now be done advantageously. Stone walls are generally the best and most economical fences in such situations. They have the important recommendation, that when once made in a proper manner they are perpetual. A trench two feet deep, and somewhat wider than the base of the wall, should be dug for the foundation, which should be filled with the smaller stones that are not suitable for wall. A skillful and practical wall-layer, will know how to select and place the stones so as to make the most substantial and permanent fence.

Boulders that are not wanted for walls, may be sunk by digging holes under or beside them, so deep that they may fall below the depth to which the plow reaches. Those who have adopted this mode of disposing of boulders, state that it is much less expensive than to get them out by blasting with powder, employing men and teams to take them away.

It is an erroneous idea, though entertained by farmers, that improvement will not pay. We believe this is in many instances urged merely as an excuse for carelessness and negligence. It is a safe maxim that, what is worth doing is worth doing well. We could refer to hundreds of instances where such improvements as we have spoken of have been made with greater profit on the money so expended than is realized in the ordinary routine of farming. The lands operated on are frequently of little or no value; but by an outlay of fifteen to twenty-five dollars are made to pay an annual interest of from fifty to a hundred and sometimes two hundred, dollars an acre.

Notes on Grape Culture.

Notwithstanding all that has been written and is daily appearing on the culture of the grape vine here, there is a lack of information as to its general management every where around us; as well as with people of high practical pretensions as with the farmer and mechanic. It is for the former, and not for proficients that I venture to become a contributor to your journal. I shall not refer to any of the modes adopted in scientific works and extensive vineyards, but to that which is seen everywhere at the mechanic's cottage and the farm house. Our people all plant grapes for two essential objects, viz: Shade and fruit; but ere many years elapse the vines become stunted and feeble, the fruit shanks and shrivels, and nothing but shade can be obtained. The cause of this may be justly attributed to two prevailing evils, want of proper manure, and bad management.

The great relish everybody has for this fruit in our warm climate not unfrequently induces the majority of our people to forfeit quality for quantity. In endeavoring to achieve this object, they seldom cut out any but the extreme tops of the branches in the winter pruning, while in summer every eye is left to bear shoots, and every shoot to ripen all the fruit it shows. In this con-

fused state they become, by the end of summer, a complete mass of worthless, ill-flavored fruit, and useless, half-ripened branches. Others boast of treating theirs more scientifically, in attempting to prune on the spur system, but with equally bad results.

The manner in which it is performed, almost without exception, being this: the main branches being once established, they keep shortening the young shoots, year after year, till in a single spur there are several years' wood, looking more like so many antlers than any thing else.

This is one of the principal causes of shanking and shrivelling, and the older those spurs are the more will those diseases increase; hence the necessity of making a proper reserve in the summer dressing, and the sooner it will be now attended to the better. There is little or no difficulty in selecting a due supply of young shoots at this season. Those nearest the main branches should be preferred; if growing from the main branch so much the better, for it is such that always bear the largest and best fruit. All superabundant and useless branches should be cut away; even your favorite old spurs can be cut now with as much safety as in the fall (besides gaining a season's growth;) tying the young shoots to their places to become the bearing wood of the next year, and nipping all laterals they produce above the first eye, and not cutting these laterals entirely away, as too many do.

This is a point seemingly but little understood, and to which I would like to call special attention, for this reason; that when the laterals are cut away the principal eye will soon break again, and exhaust itself in the production of useless branches. After a few years of this injudicious treatment it will be denounced as a barren and worthless variety and the plant vender of whom it was purchased will get his share of blame.

Those wishing information on the manure best suiting the vine can consult the article on special manure in the *Horticulturist*.

From the Wool Grower.

Autumn Management of Sheep.

Every good farmer has by this time taken his lambs from their ewes, and put them into good fresh food. If anxious for large sheep and heavy fleeces, he has learned them to eat dry food, and gives them bran or ship-stuff daily. When winter comes it will be a good plan to feed oil-cake, as described in the first volume. Salt them every week at least. If your sheep and lambs have not been dipped in tobacco juice, to kill the ticks, it is not too late, and on no account fail to dip your lambs. Some farmers who are not very nice about such things, prepare their juice, and putting their sheep or lambs into as small a place as they can be crowded, when the wool is a little damp, take a watering pot and thoroughly saturate the sheep. Those who have tried both ways say that this answers equally well and saves a great deal of trouble. Do not fail to apply the decoction one way or the other. There are some

capital suggestions in the following extract from the *Ohio Cultivator*:

"The first or middle, of August, is the proper time to take lambs from the ewes. Lambs weaned then, will do better than to let them run with their dames until later in the fall. The pastures are yet soft and best suited to their wants as a substitute for milk, and by making the change earlier they become better accustomed to feed, and will winter better than when fed with the ewes until late. It is also much better for the ewes; and as many become reduced in the summer by raising a lamb. It gives them time to regain their strength before the season arrives when they are to be turned to the bucks.

"I have practiced pasturing my corn fields with sheep. I find it not only the best pasture for sheep, but of decided advantage to corn. In the latter part of July, and through August, I have turned in a field of ten acres from one hundred to one hundred and fifty head for three or four days at a time, until they had completely cleaned out the grass and weeds. If the corn is of large growth they will do no harm whatever to the ears or stalks; only picking off occasionally a few leaves below, that are in process of decay at this season.

"And for lambs especially, it is the best pasture. They may be left until they have thoroughly eradicated the weeds and grass; if they occasionally nibble an ear the loss will be made up ten fold by the advantage to the crop, and having the ground thoroughly clean from weeds the coming season. Sheep will not do any damage to pumpkins, unless they suffer for want of water."

CULTURE OF BARLEY.—Mr. Isaac Lewis, who moved to this county last fall and now lives on the farm formerly owned by W. W. Western, near this place, has informed us that he has raised an excellent crop of barley this season. From what we have learned from Mr. Lewis who is a gentleman of fine intelligence and a good farmer, we have no doubt that the culture of barley might be very profitably introduced into this part of the country. Mr. Lewis is of the opinion that there is no soil or climate better adapted to its growth than that of this country. For the information of those who may wish to try the experiment we will say, that barley is sown about the same time and in the same way that wheat is usually put in; it bears pasturing in the winter as well as rye; is not liable to rust and other diseases that so often ruin wheat; from thirty to forty bushels can be produced on an acre of good land, and it will always find a ready market at from sixty to eighty cents per bushel, and frequently more.—[Hopkins's (Ky.) Whig.

Silence never shows itself to so great an advantage as when it makes the reply to calumny and defamation.

The world always laughs at those failures which arise from weakness of judgement and defect of penetration.

Weeds.

It is remarkable that these troublesome plants have come very generally from the Old World; they do not belong here, but, following the steps of the white man, they have crossed the ocean with him. A very large proportion of the most common weeds in our fields and gardens, and about our buildings are strangers to the soil. It will be easy to name a number of these: such for instance, as the dock and burdock, found about every barn and out-building, the common plantains and mallows—regular path weeds; the groundsel, purslane, pig-weed, goose-foot, shepherd's-purse, and lamb's quarters, so troublesome in gardens; the chick-weed, growing every where; the perinpernel, celandine, and knawel; the lady's-thumb and May-weed; the common nettles and teasel; wild flax, stickseek, bur-weed, door-weed; all the mulleins; the most pestilent thistles, both the common sort and that which is erroneously called the Canada thistle; the sow thistle; the chess, corn-cockle, tares, burloss, or blue weed, and the pigeon weed, of the grain fields; the darnel, yarrow, wild parsnip, ox-eye daisy, the wild garlick, the acrid butter-cup, and the acrid St. John's wort of the meadows, the nightshades, Jerusalem artichoke, wild radish, wild mustard, or charlock, the poison hemlock, the henbane—aye, even the very dandelion, a plant which we tread under foot at every turn. Others still might be added to the list, which were entirely unknown to the red man, having been introduced by the European race, and are now choking up all our way sides, forming the vast throng of foreign weeds. Some of these have come from a great distance, traveling round the world. The shepherd's purse with others, is common in China, on the most eastern coast of Asia. One kind of mallows belongs to the East Indies; another to the coast of the Mediterranean. The gimson weed, or *Datura*, is an Abyssinian plant, and the *Nicandra* came from Peru. It is supposed that the amaranths or green weeds, so very common here, have also been introduced, though possibly only from the more southern parts of our own country.

Some few American plants have been also carried to Europe, where they have become naturalized; but the number is very small. The evening prim-rose, and the silkweed among others have sowed themselves in some parts of the Old World, transported no doubt with the tobacco, and maize, and the potato, which are now so widely diffused over the Eastern continent, to the very heart of Asia. But even at home on our own soil, the amount of native weeds is small when compared with the throngs brought from the Old World. The wild cucumber, a very troublesome plant, the great white convolvulus, the dodder, the field sorrel, the pokeweed, the silkweed, with one or two plantains and thistles of the rarer kinds, are among the most important of those whose origin is clearly settled as belonging to this continent. It is also singular, that among these tribes which are of a divided nature, some being natives, others being introduced, the last are generally the most

numerous; for instance the native chickweeds, and plantains, and thistles, are less common here than the European varieties.

There are other naturalized plants frequent in neglected spots, about farm houses, and along road sides, which have already become so common as to be weeds; the simple and medicinal herbs, used for ages by the good wives of England and Holland, were early brought over, and have very generally become naturalized—catnip, mint, horehound, tansy, balm, comfrey, elecampane, &c. &c.—immediately take root, spreading far and wide wherever they are allowed to grow. It is surprising how soon they become firmly established in a new settlement; we often observe them in this new country apart from any dwelling: At times we have found them nearly a mile from either garden or house. The seeds of naturalized plants seem, in many cases to have floated across our lake upon the water; for we have found the European mint and catnip growing with the blue gentian immediately on the banks where the woods spread around in every direction for some distance.

The word weed varies much with the circumstances; at times, we even apply it to the beautiful flower or to the useful herb. A plant may be a weed because it is noxious, or fetid or unsightly, or troublesome, but it is rare indeed that all these faults are united in one individual of the vegetable race. Often the unsightly, or fetid, or even the poisonous plant, is useful; or it may be interesting from some other peculiarity; and, on the other hand, many others, troublesome from their numbers, bear pleasing flowers, taken singly. Upon the whole it is not so much a natural defect which marks the weed as a certain impertinent, intrusive character in these plants; a want of modesty, a habit of shoving themselves forward upon ground where they are not needed, rooting themselves into the soil intended for better things, for plants more useful, more fragrant or more beautiful. Thus the corn cockle bears a fine flower, not unlike the mullein pink of the garden, but then it springs up among the precious wheat, taking the place of the grain, and it is a weed; the flower of the thistle is handsome in itself, but it is useless, and it pushes forwards in throngs by the way-side until we are weary of seeing it, and every body makes war upon it; the common St. John's wort again has a pretty yellow blossom, and it has its uses also as a simple, but it is injurious to cattle, and yet is so obstinately tenacious of a place among the grasses, that it is found in every meadow, and we quarrel with it as a weed.

These noxious plants have come unbidden to us, with the grains and grasses of the Old World, the evil with the good, as usual in this world of probation—the wheat and the tares together. The useful plant produces a tenfold blessing upon the labor of man, but the weed is also there ever accompanying his steps, to teach him a lesson of humility. Certain plants of this nature—the dock, thistle, nettle, &c. &c.—are known to attach themselves especially to the path of man; in widely different soils and climates, they are still found at his door. Patient care and toil can alone keep the

evil within bounds, and it seems doubtful whether it lies within the reach of human means entirely to remove from the face of the earth one single plant of this peculiar nature much less all their varieties. Has any one, even of the more noxious sorts, ever been utterly destroyed? Agriculture, with all the pride and power of science at her command, has apparently accomplished but little in this way. Egypt and China are said to be countries in which weeds are comparatively rare; both regions have long been in a high state of cultivation, filling to overflowing with a hungry population, which neglects scarce a food of the soil, and yet even in those countries upon the banks of the Nile, where the crops succeed each other without any intervals throughout the whole year, leaving no time for weeds to extend themselves—even these noxious plants are known; and the moment the soil is abandoned, only for a season, they return with renewed vigor.

In this new country, with a fresh soil, and a thinner population, we have not only weeds innumerable, but we observe, also, that briars and brambles seem to acquire double strength in the neighborhood of man; we meet them in the primitive forest, here and there, but they line our roads and fences, and the woods are no sooner felled to make ready for cultivation, than they spring up in profusion; the first natural produce of the ground. But in this world of mercy, the just curse is ever graciously tempered with a blessing; many a grateful fruit, and some of our most delicious flowers, grow among thorns and briars, their fragrance and excellence reminding man of sweets as well as toils of his task. The sweet brier, more especially, with its simple flower and delightful fragrance, unknown in the wilderness, but moving onward by the side of the plowman, would seem of all others, the husbandman's blossom.—*Rural Hours.*

Bramble's Invention.

We find the following description of the ingenious and useful invention of our fellow citizen, W. W. H. T. Bramble, in the *Journal of Saturday*, and in order to give it a more general circulation we transfer it to our columns. A model of this machine can now be seen at the shop of T. H. Clarke, corner of Columbia and Wabash streets.—*St. State Sentinel.*

Our attention was attracted a few days ago by a model of a machine, bearing upon its face the title of "Bramble's self weighing and self-moving discharging Scale." Upon its sides were dials, one with two hands like a watch, the other with a single index hand. The respective body, surmounted by a hopper, was balanced in a frame, by a beam of such exquisite nicety in movement that a dime's weight affected its momentum. Curious to know what utility it possessed, we sought the inventor, Mr. Bramble, and learned that it was an instrument for weighing grain. It would require to be seen by the interested, as no description we could give on paper, would furnish any adequate idea of it as a whole. Knowing how many "gimcracks" are

palmed upon the unwary through the stamp of merit given by a successful application at the Patent Office, and as this invention claimed extraordinary advantages we resolved to put it through a minute and thorough examination, and then speak of it as valuable or worthless as it should be found to deserve. It was taken entirely to pieces, and each part and part's action explained, and then put together and the claims demonstrated.

A load of wheat may be brought to a mill, and after passing through the conductor above, to the hopper of the Bramble Scale, it will be weighed to the exactness of a half-ounce; the single indicator being set to a designated amount, the hands of the opposite dial will tell to an instant when that amount has been weighed, and told in fractional parts and the whole self computed. It has four revolving troughs; each revolution cutting off a trough-full by gate self-governed. Each trough empties its quota as it fills, and gives place to the succeeding trough, which has been filled in the meantime. The process is as rapid as it is exact—from 10 to 12 thousand bushels of grain being easily weighed in one day. It is valuable to a ware-house man, but much more so to a miller. No man can know till his whole supply of grain is exhausted, what actual amount of flour he has made from his garner, and he may be making or breaking during the time, according to circumstances. Few millers calculate more than once in six months, and never then can calculate to a nicety. It is more an estimate than a calculation. He can tell at the end of six months or a year how many barrels of flour he has produced, and how many bushels of wheat he has used, and he may come out a gainer or a loser; but with this Scale he can tell to an ounce every day—in fact every hour by the mere cast of his eye, and can judge whether he is or is not robbed of his grain, and make daily and hourly provision accordingly.

It is reckoned that four pounds of flour to the barrel, either more or less, will build up a miller's fortune in a long run, or shut up his mill. How important then to know at any and every moment the exact condition of his business, and without trouble, and only at the expense of the cost of the machine: which comparatively viewed is not worth calculating.

We earnestly enjoin upon all millers and ware-house men to examine this model, and if they do not thank us for calling their attention to it, as well as bless the worthy and ingenious inventor, we shall set them down as ungrateful curmudgeons who do not desire to prosper. Within the last two weeks we learn that Mr. Bramble has disposed of patent rights, State and County to the amount of nearly one hundred dollars, and that he is besieged with applicants daily who have either seen or desire to see the wondrous instrument in operation.

WHEAT.—The Rochester, N. Y., *Daily American* is informed by Mr. John Park, of Gates, that the heads of wheat this year contain about twenty-five per cent. more kernels than the usual average.

From the Patent Office Report for 1849.

Indian Corn.—(ZEA MAYS.)

Of the whole family of cereals, Zea Mays is unquestionably the most valuable for cultivation in the United States. When the time shall come that population presses closely on the highest capabilities of American soil, this plant which is a native of the New World, will be found to greatly excel all others in the quantity of bread, meat, milk, and butter which it will yield from an acre of land. With proper culture, it has no equal for the production of hay, in all cases where it is desirable to grow a large crop on a small surface.

The report of the Ohio Board of Agriculture for 1849, for a copy of which we are indebted to M. B. Bateham, Esq., Editor of the Ohio Cultivator, contains many interesting statements in reference to corn culture, made by the officers of numerous county agricultural Societies. In Miami county 2,030,670 bushels were grown, at an average yield of fifty-five bushels per acre. Three varieties are cultivated: the common gourd seed for cattle; the yellow Kentucky, for hogs and distilling; and the white for grinding and exportation. According to the returns from Green County, which produced 1,250,000 bushels of corn in 1849, "a regular rotation of clover, corn, wheat, and clover again, is best for corn, and no crop pays better for extra culture." The Harrison County Agricultural Society reports the pork crop at 4,800,000 pounds; and it gave its first premium for corn to Mr. S. B. LUKENS, whose statement is as follows:—

"The ground has been in meadow ten years; was plowed six inches deep about the middle of April; was harrowed twice over on the 9th May, and planted on the 11th, four feet by two feet. It came up well; was cultivated and thinned when 10 inches high; three stalks were left in a hill. About two weeks afterwards it was again cultivated, and the suckers pulled off. About the first of June it was again cultivated, making three times the same way, at it was laid off but one way.

Expense of culture, gathering, and cribbing, was	\$17 10
Product 374½ bushels at 31¼ c's,	117 10
Profit on three acres,	\$100 00

The evidence on which a premium was awarded was such as should satisfy any one that three hundred and seventy-four bushels were grown on three acres of land and at a cost not exceeding \$17 10, delivered in the crib. This is producing corn at less than five cents a bushel.

Whether the statement be true to the letter or not, it shows conclusively the great value of a rich soil for making cheap corn. The Board of Agriculture estimate the crop of Ohio last year at 70,000,000 of bushels. Taking the United States as a whole, probably the crop of corn was never better than in the 18.9. One that has rich land needs only to plow it deep and well plant in season, and cultivate the earth properly with the plow or cultivator, to secure the growth of a generous crop. On poor soils the case is very different.

To raise a good crop of corn on poor land, and at the least possible expense, requires some science and much skill in the art of tillage. Taking the same fields to operate in, and one farmer will grow one hundred bushels of corn at half the cost per bushel that another will expend in labor which is money. It unfortunately happens that very skillful farmers are few in number, in comparison with those who have failed to study and practice all attainable improvements. Men who can grow maize on common soil, place the crop in a crib at from six to ten cents a bushel, and pay a fair price for the labor, need not go to school to learn the practical part of corn culture. There are, however, five or six States in the Union in which this is done. Mr. Lukens, of Ohio, has told how they do it in that state; and the practice is very similar elsewhere. To produce cheap corn on poor land, one needs a clear understanding of what elements of the crop air and water will furnish, and what they cannot supply. It should be remembered that the atmosphere is precisely the same over ground which yields 100 bushels of corn per acre, that it is over that which produces only five bushels per acre. Now, the whole matter which forms the stems, leaves, roots, cobs, and seeds of corn, where the crop is one hundred bushels per acre, is not part and parcel of the soil. A harvest equal to fifty bushels per acre can be obtained without consuming over ten per cent. of earth as compared with the weight of the crop. No plant can imbibe more of the substance of the soil in which it grows, than is dissolved in water and rendered gaseous by the decomposition of mold.

The quantity of matter dissolved, whether organic or inorganic, during the few weeks in which corn plants organize the bulk of their solids, is small. From ninety-three to ninety-seven parts in one hundred of the dry matter in a mature, perfect plant, including its seeds, cobs, stem, leaves, and roots, are carbon—charcoal—and the elements of water. It is not only an important but an exceedingly instructive fact, that the most effective fertilizers known in agriculture are those that least abound in the elements of water and carbon. The unleached, dry excrements of dunghill fowls, man, and beast are thus thrown into the atmosphere by a slow continuous combustion, which generates animal heat. These elements of the farmer's crops fall upon his uncultivated fields in rain and dew. Hence, when a pig or any other animal, eats one hundred pounds of corn, and voids by the bowels and kidneys 40 pounds of the matter consumed, these forty pounds will reproduce, one hundred pounds of corn again. Even this forty per cent of the element of corn may be reduced one-half by skillful fermentation, by which carbon and the elements of water are still further removed, and then reproduce an amount of grain equal to the origin. The art and science of feeding cultivated plants being discussed at length in another place, the subject will not be pursued in this connection.

The rapid growth of corn plants, when the heat, light and moisture, as well as the soil is favorable, is truly wonderful. A deep, rich, mellow soil in which

the roots can freely extend to a greater distance in depth and laterally, is what the corn grower should provide for his crop. The perviousness of river bottoms contributes largely to their productiveness of this cereal. A compact clay, which excludes alike air, water, and roots—forbidding all chemical changes—is not the soil for corn.

When farmers sell corn soon after it is ripe, there is considerable gain in not keeping it long to dry to shrink in weight. Corn grown by Mr. Salisbury, which was ripe by the 18th of October, then contained 37 per cent. of water, which is 25 per cent. more than old corn from the crib will yield. The mean of many experiments tried by the writer has been a loss of twenty per cent. in moisture between old and new corn. The butts of corn stalks contain the most water, and husks and shucks the least, when fully matured and not dried. The latter have about thirty per cent. of dry matter when chemically desiccated.

All experience, as well as all chemical researches, go to prove that potash and phosphoric acids are important elements in the organization of maize. Corn yields more pounds of straw and grain on poor land than either wheat, rye, barley, or oats; and it does infinitely better on rich than on sterile soils. To make the earth fertile, it is better economy to plant thick than to have the rows five feet apart each way, as is customary in some of the southern States, and only one stalk in a hill. This gives but one plant to twenty five square feet of ground. Instead of this three square feet are sufficient for a single plant; and from that up to six, for the largest varieties of this crop.

Much has been written in the agricultural journals of the country on the propriety of thin and thick planting. Among the advocates of the latter system Dr. M. W. Philips, of Mississippi, has become conspicuous and is understood to be a successful grower of this American staple. If one has not a deep mellow soil on which to grow corn, it will pay well to form such a soil by deep plowing, turning in green crops, and draining if necessary. Few farmers have ever made themselves rich by raising corn on poor land. There is vastly too much of unproductive soils plowed and hoed in the United States. This practice is bad economy; for it impoverisheth the earth, without enriching either the agriculturist or the community. It is so much cheaper to grow one hundred bushels of corn on two than on ten acres, that a general effort should be made to bring all corn lands up to the average of 50 bushels per acre.

A writer in the Maine Farmer estimates the quantity of southern and western corn annually imported into that state, for home consumption, at 3,000,000 of bushels. No other population three times as large out of the United States consumes an equal amount of American corn. Maine is a great ship-building and lumber-producing State, which makes her an excellent customer for the grain and meat growing districts of the Union. The demand for ships, breadstuffs, provisions, ready-made houses, farm implements, and wearing apparel of every kind, for the California trade and market

is operating very sensibly on the agricultural interests of the country. The more its labor becomes diversified the less danger there is of over-producing any one important crop like that of corn, cotton or wheat. It will not do for the productive industry of five millions of agriculturists to be constantly employed on a few leading crops, unless the design is to give a great deal of work for a very little pay, and impoverish the land at the same time.

Valuable Invention.

Letters have recently been issued from the Patent Office at Washington, to Mr. E. G. Pomeroy of St. Louis, for an invention by which he professes to coat iron with copper so as to fit it for many useful purposes to which it is not now suited. By Mr. P.'s process, which is described as simple and cheap, the iron is first immersed in sulphuric acid, or some other acid to remove all impurities from the surface. When dry, it is dipped into clay sufficiently moistened to leave a thin coating on the iron: It is again dried over a brisk fire, and then immersed several times in molten copper. Enough of the copper adheres to the iron, it is said to cover the surface completely, after which it may be passed through rollers to reduce it to the required thickness, and the result is a smooth surface, fully equal in brightness to pure copper or brass. The coating is perfect, and appears not simply to lay to the iron, in a thin layer, but to be completely amalgamated with it so that on hammering it the coating does not separate, but remains as firm and durable as the iron itself.

The editor of the St. Louis Intelligences, who has seen some samples of iron coated by this process, speaks of the matter as follows:—[Louisville Courier.

"If this invention is what it purports to be and what we believe it is, it will be found useful in an infinite variety of forms; in the sheathing of vessels—the roofing of houses—in steam boilers and chimneys—and a great variety of other things. In the single article of spikes and bolts, and other fastening for ships and vessels, the saving will be enormous. Iron spikes and bolts are much better and stronger than copper. Coated by this process, they will resist the action of salt water, and gallic acid of the wood, as perfectly, will be much better in other respects, and will not cost half as much.

In truth we can perceive no reason why iron should not supercede copper in almost all the uses to which it is applied, if this invention be what it is claimed to be.

A new and singular disease is killing all the chickens a few miles east of Cleveland. One man has lost three hundred of his best breed. They are affected with a sudden trembling, resembling ague, and immediate death follows; the head and comb, in the meantime, change to dark blue.

The census marshal of Grundy county, Ill., has found a lady fourteen years of age, who was married at eleven and now delights in the possession of a nice, plump masculine 'Sucker,' who has cried after her some fifteen moons, and has been, for some time, practicing the art of balancing with great success.

From the Maine Farmer.

Culture of Strawberries.

We are so abundantly blessed in Maine with the strawberry in our fields, that there is not much attention paid to their culture. Occasionally we find a bed in some of the gardens in the villages, but our farmers seldom trouble their heads about the culture of them—preferring to let nature do that business for them, and to let their children have a free run for them during the short season of their maturity, even at the risk of having their mowing fields pretty well tangled in consequence.

A bed or two of this delicious fruit would nevertheless be a convenient appendage to a farmer's garden, "away out in the country," even if his fields were full of them. Like every thing else, they grow larger and better when properly cultivated than when they are growing wild.

As this is the time for preparing beds for transplanting them, it may not be amiss to bring the subject to your notice. The nursery men have a great variety of sorts which they will recommend to you, but in reality two or three varieties are enough. For an early kind, say the Early Virginia; and for later and larger kinds, you want Hovey's Seedling, and Hovey's Boston Pine. They were both first obtained from seeds sown by Messrs. Hovey, of Boston and are very fine varieties. For late strawberries, the Alpines, either the white or red, or both are recommended.

For the bed, you should have a soil a little inclining to moisture, and make it as rich as you please, to the depth of eighteen inches. Then take the young roots and set them in rows two and a half or three feet apart, and a foot from each other in the rows. A friend of ours once had a very good bed which he managed in this way: After making his bed he boxed it in with planks set up edgewise, and also divided it into rows by setting down planks even with the surface, a foot apart. He then set his roots in every other row, leaving the vacant rows for paths for one season. After the roots thus set out had borne fruit the ensuing year, he trained the runners over into the vacant paths and let them take root there, and when this had been done, cut them off from the parent root, which he grubbed up, using their space for paths, and thus alternating.

We have recommended Hovey's Seedling for culture, and we would here copy the following hints from Hovey's Magazine, being the substance of remarks made by that gentleman during the discussion of gentleman on the subject of strawberries, at the last Congress of Fruit Growers.

Mr. Hovey said he would embrace this opportunity to say a few words in regard to the cultivation of the Boston Pine. One gentleman had remarked that he cultivated his vines in hills; another, his in beds; others their in rows—and all had succeeded equally well. But as one gentleman had said that he did not exactly understand what was meant by cultivating in hills, he would briefly explain. Gentlemen were probably aware that

Hovey's Seedling, the Early Virginia, and other varieties, rarely produced more than three or four trusses of fruit, and then when grown thickly in beds produced very good crops. This, however, was not the case with the Boston Pine, generally—the constitutional tendency of the plant being to produce ten or twelve trusses to each root. The consequence was, that when the vines occupied all the ground, there was a deficiency of nourishment, and the berries did not fill up. Hence has arisen many failures in the cultivation of this variety.

It required more room than other strawberries, and when grown in rows, with a space of a foot or more between, and that space well manured, the crop was one of the most abundant of all kinds.

Cultivation in hills, so termed, was when one or more plants were set out two or three feet apart each way, the runners kept clipped off, and the ground tilled with the hoe, or when extensively grown, with the cultivator or hoe.

Our readers will perceive that he recommends this method only for the Boston Pine. Those who intend to cultivate the strawberry should get about it this month. If set out now, the roots get a good growth before winter, and will be ready for fruiting before next spring.

Heavy Fleeces.

It is reasonable to conclude that a full supply of food to sheep will cause good fleeces. Every wool-grower, however, knows that there is a vast difference, even in the same breed of sheep, in the yield of wool. In Vermont and New York, the spirit roused by S. W. Jewitt's success in obtaining heavy fleeces from his Merinos still continues, and has led not only to the improvement of flocks at home, but also the importation of improved Merinos, of larger size, and bearing heavier fleeces than the ordinary kind among us.

We find statements of some heavy fleeces taken off this year, in several of our exchanges. Reed Burritt of Burdett, N. Y., writing to the Genesee Farmer upon this subject, states that Mr. C. Van Horn of Coopers-town, sheared 81 1-2 lbs. of wool from fourteen sheep, twelve of them being ewes, ten of which had lambs; two were yearling bucks that gave 17 1-2 lbs.; that five of the number were full blood Merinos, and the others were crossed with the English breed. They were all well washed, and perfectly dry when shorn.

Mr. Burritt then states that he keeps three hundred sheep, that he sheared them on the first week in June, and from two bucks that were three years old, and 12 ewes, all full blooded Merinos, he sheared 86 1-2 lbs. of wool. Seven of these ewes had lambs by their sides;—the other five were yearling ewes, that of course had no lambs. The fleeces of the two bucks weighed just 20 pounds.—one weighed 10 pounds 11 oz.,—and the other 9 pounds 5 oz.—all well washed and dry when shorn.

We have sheep in Maine that come up to this. Our neighbors, Joseph and Lewis Wood, sheared a buck this season that gave over ten pounds of well washed,

dry wool. He was a descendant from Mr. Jewitt's famous Paular Merino, "Fortune"—*Me. Farmer.*

RAISING MULES.—The raising of mules is becoming an important branch of the stock business, and is decidedly the most profitable of any that the farmer can engage in. They may properly be called a staple stock; for, from an intimate acquaintance with the business, we can state that they afford the most uniform compensation, and they have been less subject to injurious fluctuation, and are fit for earlier sales than any other stock. Their average cost, at six months old, may be put down at twenty dollars per head, and this is a remunerating price to the breeder up to that age; and then with common keep on grain, hay and pasturage, (if you have it) for the first winter, and with grain and rough feed through the next winter, entirely dispensing with grain afterwards, the grazier may calculate, with certainty, to advance his animals in price at least twenty dollars a year. Should he feed on grain all the time, it will pay him twenty cents a bushel for the corn in addition, up to the age of two and a half or three years, at which time they are put to work or sent to market. The stock of mares in our country is well calculated for producing a superior quality of mules; and with the advantage of a large breed of Jacks, we need not fear competition with any part of the world. These animals are hardy and remarkable healthy, the deaths seldom exceed three per cent; the care necessarily bestowed upon them is but trifling. The breaking and handling, or quieting, is of no advantage to the seller, the purchasers making that rather an objection than admitting it to be a benefit. Color and slight blemishes do not materially depreciate the price, and the farmer can calculate with certainty, upon a market whenever he wishes to sell.—*An. Report Ohio State Board of Agriculture.*

SINGULAR VEGETABLE PHENOMENON.—The Knoxville (Tenn) Register gives the following account of a singular and perhaps important vegetable phenomenon.

About this time last year the cane upon several islands in the rivers of East Tennessee was discovered to be producing small grains, which very much resembled rye both as to size and shape. It grew in heads, and was covered with chaff like that of wheat. The production was then considered remarkable, and so unusual that not even "the oldest inhabitant" had ever seen any thing of the kind. The conjectures respecting the cause of the appearance of this unusual grain were very numerous—many persons (and some of them skilled in botanic learning,) supposed that the cane had, by some means, been inoculated with wheat.

This year we are told that the cane throughout East Tennessee is bearing, in almost incredible quantities, the same grain. At some places it would not be difficult to collect as much as twenty or thirty bushels to the acre. Some persons owning lands have already gathered large quantities of the grain which they find makes a flour equal in appearance to that of wheat, and equally as palatable when cooked in the form of cakes, &c. Hogs and fowls eat the grain as it falls from the

cane, with the greediness that they devour any other small grain. Another remarkable feature about the matter is, that so soon as the grain begins to mature, the cane begins to die, and the indications now are that all the cane in East Tennessee will die out this season.

It has been suggested to us that the farmers by collecting the seed, might sow it upon their wood lands, and thus have excellent cane pastures for their stock, as there can be little doubt that the grain will germinate especially in a moist soil.

[We have no sympathy with that envious and heartless selfishness which denounces the wealthy, the honored; and the prosperous because they are so; but we regard as equally pernicious the too common sentiment that respectability and dignity are to be measured by a person's employment or possessions; the following sensible remarks are from the Waverly Magazine.]

There is a most radical error prevailing society at the present day, in regard to plain, honest, hardy industry. A greater, or more foolish mistake, never associated itself with the popular prejudices, than that it is the nature of his avocation that gives character and dignity to the man. For our part we should be sadly puzzled to discover the distinction between any two of the varied occupations which employ the industry of man, that would raise the operative in the one case above the one in the other. One occupation is precisely as creditable in itself, and as commendable to its industrious pursuer as another, provided it be honorable, and in harmony with the laws of God and man. It is the man that ennobles the occupation—not the occupation that dignifies the man. It is well that we are not all fitted by habit, education and taste, for the same avocation. However, these natural divisions are by no means distinctions. It is this diversity of taste together with good and wholesome laws and regulations, that harmonize this vast workshop of intricate industry—the world. Without this diversity, all would be a riot and confusion, and physical power alone would reap the benefits of labor. As it is, the weak and strong have each their appropriate allotments.

The man who follows in the wake of the plowshare, in his striped frock, and with bronzed and toughened hand plants his seed—the man with smutty face and leather apron, who with strong and vigorous sinew, swings his clanging sledge from early morn to twilight eve—or the man who bends over his ringing lap stone the live-long day is not not one whit below the smooth faced, keen-eyed merchant, who follows the feminine employment of measuring tape and ribbon—the eagle-eyed barrister, who expounds, or rather mystifies the law, or him whose stately tread resounds in our halls of legislation. Still, there exists in community a low baneful prejudice in regard to this matter of labor. Why, fathers now-a-days must keep a sharp eye on their sons, lest they stray from "the learned professions," and take up the degrading occupation of a mechanic, and thus entail a calamity upon the family which can never be wiped out. The daughter, too, must have a maternal spy upon her every glance and footstep, lest she be tipping the light of her "ee" upon some poor mechanic! Horrible! Why, the good lady would as soon think of linking her daughter with a Patagonian heathen as a mechanic.

The Wheat Harvest.

The wheat harvest is now so far advanced and so ample in the United States, that we can speak with some confidence of its abundance, and of the circumstances which will materially affect if they do not control the price of breadstuffs, for the coming year. With the exception of Georgia, Alabama, and Texas, all the States have produced either an average or more than an average crop of wheat, which is already cut and housed, or soon will be. In the Northwestern States, including Missouri, Kentucky, and Tennessee, the surplus will be unusually large. Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin and Michigan, with few unimportant exceptions have been blest with favorable weather and generous harvests. In Pennsylvania, Western New York and Canada, the wheat crop is generally good. What is most needed by the farmers of this country, is a reliable market for their vast surplus of grain. To this point public attention should be especially and earnestly directed.

We have just received our Scotch, English, and French agricultural journals for July, and had time to read them. The leading article in the Journal of the Highland, and Agricultural Society of Scotland, is "On Agricultural Statistics." Although agricultural statistics have been more neglected in Great Britain than in this country, yet enough is known to prove the capacity of the British islands to feed their entire population for many years to come. More than half the cultivated land in Scotland is sown in oats; and the yield of this crop on well drained, tilled and manured farms, is almost incredible. Sixty varieties of this cereal are grown, of which one-half are said to be worthless. The intelligent reader need not be informed that oatmeal is the staple food of the millions in Scotland and the north of England. A Scotchman who has recently returned from a tour in the United States and is publishing his "Notes on American Agriculture," says that the "Americans are generally fond of oatmeal; indeed it fetches a high price; but yet the supply is exceedingly defective."

Probably not one American in a thousand has ever tasted oat meal bread in his life.

The crops in the British islands, in France, and on the continent are generally very promising. French agriculturists, after feeding thirty-six millions of people at home, sent a larger amount of breadstuffs to England last year than did all the farmers in our thirty States. Being so much nearer the consumers, continental grain growers, with their abundant and exceedingly cheap labor, have a decisive advantage over their competitors on this side of the Atlantic. While we annually waste the raw material for making wheat equal to the production of several hundred million bushels, European cultivators, by the aid of more advanced chemical science and rural art are beginning to husband the elements of bread and meat with considerable care and economy. Commercial men know but very little of the revolution which is now in progress in the most educated nations of Europe, in the production and pres-

ervation of human food. Even the literary world is profoundly ignorant of what modern science is doing for the human family in the way of augmenting the natural fullness of the earth.

American farmers cannot much longer look to London and Liverpool for a market for their grain and provision. California has promised to afford them some advantage in the way of consuming their flour, meat, lard, butter and cheese; but it appears that powerful competitors are springing up in Peru, Chili and Oregon. Wheat in Peru and Chili, is now selling at thirty-one cents a bushel. This arises from the circumstance that guano abounds at their doors, which is the fertilizer known to form cheap grain, where it costs little or nothing. The writer has before him a letter from an excellent farmer in Maryland, who has used this fertilizer, for several years and taken pains to procure from the Patent Office the best seed wheat in the Union. This farmer says that some heads of wheat in his field this year are ten and eleven inches in length, and well filled with plump seeds. Only few persons are studying the improvement of wheat plants on scientific principles; but these are, happily, quite successful.

In regard to a market for wheat; New England now furnishes the best market in this country, if not in the world. It is a mistake to import so largely of English goods, and depend on the sale of Southern cotton and tobacco to pay for the same. Mechanical and manufacturing interests should be fostered and extended at home, to enlarge the only reliable market for the grain and provisions which the farmer has to sell. He is sure of the custom of all American miners; laborers on canals, lakes, rivers, and rail-roads. He is certain to feed all operatives in the factories, machine shops, cities and villages in the United States. But place his customers on the western side of the Rocky Mountains, or on the east side of the Atlantic, and the chances are one hundred to one that the tillers of the earth much nearer to the consumers, will supply them with their necessary food. This results from the natural law which is as wise as it is universal; for a small part of each kernel of wheat taken from a soil should be restored to it to prevent any diminution of fertility. The potash, bone earth and sulphur, extracted from the soil in crops of grain, are not unlimited in quantity, in an available form; If these are taken from all our fields, year after year, and sent to England, from what source is a sufficient amount of bones, potash, and sulphur to be had to renovate our impoverished lands? The farmers of England consumed of imported bones, 35,000 tons in the year 1846. Our fields part with an amount one hundred times larger every year, and gain no adequate return whatever. A home market can alone remedy this growing evil. Every pound of potash sent out of this country or wasted in it, is a loss equal to a larger quantity of wheat than we care to name. Suffice it to say that one-third of the ash of wheat is pure potash—an element not abounding in any old, long cultivated field. The time has come when the husbanding of the things which nature consumes in forming wheat, should

command universal attention. Legislatures, both State and National, must adapt their government policy to the plain and beautiful truths of science. They cannot put out its brilliant light by blinding the eyes of the people, nor by continuing in the darkness of the past centuries. Truth will vindicate itself, and "though crushed to earth, will rise again." American industry must be more diversified, and the true principles of tillage known to every cultivator of the soil.

Fruit Raising.

There has been much fine fruit exposed for sale in St. Louis, this summer, but the prices have been so exorbitant that few could indulge in the luxury of freely using it. This is to be regretted, for nothing can be more wholesome than ripe fruit; used moderately.

We hope that the high prices which have been obtained for all the fruit offered for sale, and the greedy demand for larger supplies, will induce many cultivators around St. Louis to go into a business at once so pleasing and profitable as fruit raising. We confess there is no branch of labor that has ever charmed us as much as that of the orchardist.

The picture of contentment found in the Scriptures, has never yet been excelled in the poet's mind or by the painter's pencil—that of a man "sitting under his own vine and fig-tree," and enjoying external peace, as well as the sweet rewards of his daily labor.

The work of the orchardist is light, varied, pleasing and eminently refining. As for the pecuniary profits, he who has been eating peaches for a month at five cents each, and not very large ones at that, and plums and nectrines at the same price, can form a very correct judgment.

St. Louis, it is clear, is immeasurably ahead of the fruit market in this region. One hundred times the quantity of fruit brought to St. Louis, this summer, could have been sold easily, and at very fair if not high prices.

That fruits pay better than any other produce of the soil, we think no one can doubt who will take the trouble to examine the facts. In the neighborhood of the eastern cities where fruit raising has, for several years, been attracting a large share of attention and capital, the profits are found to be immense. We have found a brief summary of some remarkable cases of profit, going the rounds of the papers, which we here append, for the encouragement of all who think unfavorably of embarking in the fruit raising business.—*St. Louis Intelligence.*

PROFITS ON FRUIT CULTURE.—The following facts, exhibiting the profits which may be derived from the skillful culture of fruits, are furnished by S. W. Cole, of Boston, who is a remarkable fact gatherer, and who remarks: "We give some extreme cases, and others which common skill may compass. The cultivator will do well with medial success. Yet it is well to have a standard of extraordinary attainment, or the perfection of excellence, as the goal for those who inscribe on their banner 'excelsior.'"

"Mr. Moses Jones, of Brooklin, in this vicinity, a most skillful cultivator, set 112 apple trees two rods apart, and peach trees between, both ways. The eighth year he had 228 barrels of apples, and in a few years from setting the trees, \$400 worth of peaches in one year, and the best part of the story is, that large crops of vegetables were raised on the same land, nearly paying for the labor and manure. The tenth year from setting, many of the apple trees produced four or five barrels each, the land still yielding good crops of vegetables, the peach trees having mostly gone by old age. Mr. J. grafted a tolerably large pear tree to the Bartlett, and the third year it produced \$30 worth.

"Mr. S. Dudley, a very successful cultivator in Roxbury, an adjoining city, sold the crop of currants from one eighth of an acre for \$109, the next year for \$125, and he had good crops for several years. He picked 500 quart boxes from one-eighth of an acre the next season, after setting the bushes in the fall. He had \$25 worth of cherries from one Mazzard tree.

"We saw in Natick, Mass., on the banks of the 'classic Charles,' on the farm of M. Eames, Esq., an apple tree grafted to the Poster when 75 years old; it soon bore, and the seventh year it produced 15 barrels which sold at \$20. The original Hurlburt apple tree produced forty bushels in one year and twenty the next. The original Bars apple yielded sixty bushels in one year. N. Wyeth, Esq., Cambridge, in this region, had from a Harvard pear tree nine barrels of fruit, which sold for \$45.

"A farmer would not plant an orchard, thinking he should not plant an orchard thinking he should live to eat the fruit; his son had the same views; but the grandson planted for posterity, yet his predecessors shared in the fruit also, for the grandfather drank hogsheads of the cider.

"Hovey states that a Dix pear tree, in Cambridge, produced forty six dollars worth of fruit at one crop. We saw in Orange, New Jersey, 100 bushels of apples on a Harrison tree, which would make ten barrels of cider, selling at ten dollars a barrel in New York.

"Downing says that the original Dubois Early Golden Apricot produced \$45 worth in 1844, \$50 in 1845; \$60 in 1846. A correspondent of the Horticulturist says that Mr. Hill Pennel, Darby, Pa., has a grape vine that has produced 75 bushels yearly, which sells at one dollar per bushel. James Laws, Philadelphia, has a Washington plum that yields six bushels a year that would sell for sixty dollars. Judge Linn, Carlisle, Pa., has two apricot trees that yielded five bushels worth \$120. Mr. Hugh Hatch, of Camden, N. J., has four apple trees that produced 130 bushels, 90 bushels of which sold at \$1 each. In 1244, a tree of the Lady Apple at Fishkill Landing, N. Y., yielded fifteen barrels that sold for forty-five dollars."

The present price of wheat in France is 91 cents per bushel!—In New-York it is 140 cents. This fact will explain why it is that France is just now sending into European markets a vast deal more wheat and flour than the United States.

From the Ohio Cultivator.

Farming, and Farmer's Life.

Mr. L. A. HINE, one of our occasional contributors, and now corresponding editor of the Cincinnati Nonpareil, has been writing a series of spirited and interesting letters from New York for that paper. The following is one of the last and best. We think his ideas on the philosophy of living, are as near correct as any we have read lately, and we sincerely hope he may be enabled to realize his fond hopes and very rational desires:

Berlin, July 30th, 1850.

Messrs. Nonpareillers: I have been at work in the wheat field for several days. Work and I were always friends; we never "fell out." Having been bred a farmer, and having spent most of my time to the age of twenty at hard labor on the farm, early and late, of course, all its avocations are familiar to me. It is eight or nine years since I performed any farm work, but every thing is as natural as when I left the field for the school and study. It is true, that so long an abstinence from severe manual toil, makes every bone ache for a while on taking hold again as of yore, and attempting, the first day, to keep pace with long accustomed hands. But two or three days cured this lameness, and hard work comes natural again. After the first day's work I was lame enough, and a night's sleep did not help the matter; for in the morning I felt as if it would be a kindness for some one to roll me out of bed. But an hour's labor limbered my joints, and worked a cure which two days of lounging could not have done.

I do think that intelligent farming is the pleasantest pursuit that can engage our attention. By intelligent farming I mean such a development of the farmer that he can direct all his labor to the most profitable advantage, can sow always at the right time, in the right place, and with the right preparation; can exercise good taste in fitting up his grounds, especially about the house, and thus take a pleasant advantage of all the blessings of a country life; can unite mental with physical toil,—working awhile with his hands, awhile with his head; make a good living by easy toil, and in all respects living as a true man. In the city it is impossible for a single individual to lead the true life. He can't have a spacious yard about his house filled with shrubbery, trees and flowers; he can't have open space and pure air; he can't have the abundance of the country and be completely independent at all times, and more than all he can't rear a family in health and virtue in the city. In the country, every home can be embowered, and the little ones can dwell in a paradise, constantly surrounded with every thing beautiful, the air loaded with the fragrance of the foliage, the perfume of flowers, and the music of birds; in the city these are superseded by brick and

stone walls glowing with the summer heat; by a thick sultry atmosphere, bearing all kinds of obscene smells and noxious gasses; by folly, fashion and flummery in place of the good taste inspired by the simplicity of nature. But I'll not annoy city people by carrying this contrast farther. If I could do any thing to break up the passion which so many have for city life, and madness of so many young men and women in leaving the country for the city, I should doubtless be a benefactor.

What would I do if I had a farm of thirty, forty, or fifty acres? I don't exactly know what I should do, but I "rather guess" that something a little out of the common order *would* be done. I am accused of not thinking as other folks do—and of course I should not act as other folks do, for from our thoughts spring our actions. Well, I would work six hours a day, and make as much as farmers generally do on one hundred acres at twelve hours per day. Besides this, while farmers spend no time about the house and in the garden, I and my good wife would fix up such a bower about our tasteful cottage, as would call the angels down to dwell with us. In preparing to build the first expense should be incurred in procuring from the best architect the very best drawing of the very best cottage; and then the carpenter's and the masons should follow the draft to the last line and do their work in the best style or they should not get their pay. The fact is, there is a shameful indolence of taste and mind generally, among the farmers in respect to their houses and the grounds about them. What do we live for, if not for enjoyment? and what can contribute so much to the happiness of a family as a beautiful place in which to dwell?

Had I a farm in Ohio (and as the kind Providence is *always* on my side, I shall have one,) I would have an arbor of several acres, and in that arbor every tree and shrub, native to Ohio, should have a representative,—and I would not set them out in rows which are a mockery of nature: but they should stand "helter skelter," intermingled, all over, as if they grew there from the seed which God himself sowed.

You would not catch me working myself to death—for what's the use of committing suicide? It is preached as a crime to kill one's self directly—but it is also preached as a virtue to

"Work, work, work,
From weary chime to chime;
Work, work, work,

As prisoners work for crime.

Plow and harrow and hoe,

Hoe and harrow and plow,

Till the heart grows sick and the arms benumbed,
And misery stamped on the brow."

A man is praised if he works himself to death, but he is called a poor insane fool if he takes his own life in an equally respectable way. The fact is, slavish toil imbrutes the people—and they

must learn to toil for health and pleasure alone, under the faith that the earth will produce abundance for every need of every human being by the application of this amount of labor. The people should begin to live sensibly.

Rotation of Crops.—Wheat may follow clover, beans, peas, and the hard crops, or an old turf, with decided advantage, as there is a change or rotation from one species of plant to a different one. Not so, however, when it follows Timothy, for here it is one grass following another, the wheat being classed by botanists in the order, "*gramineæ*" of which it is a true member. Wheat does not, therefore, appropriately succeed Timothy, as it would not herd's grass, nor any other of the true grasses, unless first fully and properly dressed with appropriate manures. Hundreds of farmers have observed this fact, and are surprised at it. Had they read the agricultural papers aright, they would have learned this was a result not to be wondered at, but also that any other would have been a first cause of wonder. So says the editor of the American Agriculturist—good authority.

FLIES.—Not a year passes but we hear of cases of accidental poisoning from the use of various fly-poisons, that are improperly employed to destroy these insects. We have known of several cases within a few years, in this city, where the death of children has been produced. We think, therefore, it should be generally known that it is wholly unnecessary to resort to those deadly arsenical preparations for the purpose of killing flies, and as the season in which these little insects are most annoying is approaching, we will here state, for the benefit of the public, upon good authority, if a plateful of *strong green tea*, well sweetened, be placed in an outer apartment accessible to flies, they will taste of it, and be killed thereby as surely as by the most approved "fly poison." This fact may not be so agreeable to those who are accustomed to sip two or three cups of this delightful beverage every evening, but it is nevertheless a fact, and any one who has any doubts upon the subject, has but to try the experiment, and in so doing they need have no fears of poisoning, materially, their children, even though they should accidentally drink the draught designed for the flies.—*Providence Journal*.

To destroy Rats.—Professed English rat catchers use the following compound, and so affected are rats by this perfume that they can be taken by hand with impunity:

Powdered assafoetida, one quarter grain; oil of aniseseed, one drachm: essential oil of lavender, one scruple: essential oil of rhodium, 3 drachms. Mix this compound, and spread it on the bait in the trap.

Eggs-actly.

We copy the following very clever squib from the New England Farmer. The extent to which this fever has raged among the good people of Yankee-doodledom has scarcely a parallel in the history of speculating excitements:

The Hen Fever.

Æsop, who wrote in days of yore,
Tells of a wondrous goose,
That for its master every day
Would golden eggs produce.

But poulterers of the present day
Would such a fowl despise;
A Dorking or a Shanghai hen
They'd far more highly prize.

The modern poulterers include
The righteous and the bad,
The rich, the poor, the old, the young;
All have have gone "poultry mad."

Lawyers, and doctors, and divines,
All practice have resigned,
And to improve the breed of hens
Their talents have combined.

And, after "laying" various plans,
They've "set" themselves at work
To find if in the poultry tribe
New qualities may lurk.

The praise of hens of various breeds
From every tongue is heard,
While all admit the crested cock
To be a "*gallus* bird."

A hen-pecked husband now is thought
Alone to know true bliss,
And if a *chicken* heart he owns,
It will not come amiss.

The *cock-ney* now is thought to be
With keenest wit adorned,
And 'tis a "feather in his cap,"
If, like the hens, he's *corn*-ed.

Fowl-ers are now the only works
Young ladies deign to read,
And *chick-weed*, *egg-plant*, *eg-lantine*,
The only flowers they'll heed.

Their suitors now are only asked
How many hens they own,
For by the care on these bestowed,
True love is only shown.

Vain *eg-otists* are they who think
Good looks or wit will make
Amends for empty poultry yards;
Eg-regious mistake.

Hen-ry and *Hen-rietta* now
Are lovely names indeed,
And those who bear these honored names
No other graces need.

"Tis strange, 'tis passing strange;" the world
Is ever running wild;
Some foolish scheme will captive lead
Alike the sage and child.

HEN-RY.

Stonington, Ct., July, 1850.

[Continued from page 373.]

brief remarks, and concluded by offering the following sentiment:

Horticulture marked the means of the golden age in the past, and the donations advanced by this association in an indication that there is good times coming again.

The fifth regular toast was then announced.

5 *The patrons of Horticulture*—We wish them health and prosperity, and a serene and ripe old age. We welcome at our board a liberal patron in the department of wine-making (Mr. KEYSER) and only wish that many more like him might rise up to encourage the laborers in the vineyard.

Mr. KEYSER, being called upon, responded, and said the sentiment over honored him at the expense of the man who was probably now out in the broiling sun to superintend his vineyard. He spoke of his old workman in very flattering terms, whose production the wine properly was. He sincerely hoped the whole State of Missouri would attain the end which the city had arrived at in its productions.

The President then announced the sixth regular toast, viz:

6 *The Ladies*—The "Morning Glories" of creation; our fireside "Delights," and every day's "Hearts Ease."

Mr. CRICKETT was called upon to respond. He could see no other reason why he should be called upon to respond to the toast, unless it was one—that he was the father of seven daughters. [Applause.] He entertained very good feeling for the sex, and it seemed reposterous, at this period of the world, to call upon a man to make a speech in favor of the ladies. If it had been a period of the world when women were in darkness, it might be excusable for an old married man like him to respond in their favor. Every man now-a-days, he presumed, conceded that ladies were superior to them in all respects. We were surrounded by fruits and flowers, adorned to our tastes and beautified by their handiwork. He concurred in every line and word in the sentiment, and in its language, could say they were the "morning glories" of creation, our fireside "delights" and every day's "heart's ease." [Applause.]

Here, as germane to the subject, the President called on Mr. J. M. FIELD to sing, which he did with good taste and effect, the company joining in the chorus, the following—

HORTICULTURAL SONG—By EZRA SARGENT.

The Winter chill has pleasures still,
And Spring is fair to see;
In Summer's heat the groves are sweet,
But Autumn bold for me!
With vine-leaves on his honest brow,
And harvest in his arms,
He comes with all of Winter's cheer,
And all of Summer's charms!
Chorus—For there's nae luck about the house,
There's nae luck at a',
There's little pleasure in the house,
If woman is awa'.

The Flowers and Fruits that deck our board
To her a tribute owe;
From her the Rose steals all its bloom,
From her, the peach its glow;
The Lily, in her purity,
May see its own eclipse;
And where did cherries take their red,
If not from woman's lips?
Chorus—So, there's nae luck, &c.

The purple bloom upon the Grape,
The Violet's modest hue—
Who does not see they're borrowed both,
From certain eyes of blue?
And if the Orange Flower is sweet,
And if the Hyacinth fair,
Will any one their lovely tints,
With those we sing compare?
Chorus—Oh, there's nae luck, &c.

And there be men of high renown
Who're welcome here to day;
In Church and State who've garlands won,
That will not fade away;
And tillers of the soil have come
To grace our festival;
And Horticulture's peaceful chiefs,—
And they are welcome all!
Chorus—But there's nae luck, &c.

Then while we show our gardens' wealth,
And boast our Plums and Pears,
And while we welcome to our hall
Our Governors and Mayors,
Let's not forget, o' all the charms
That grace our board, the crown—
But at a lusty Pippin each,
To Mother Eve's renown!
Chorus—For there's nae luck about the house,
There's nae luck at a'—
There's little pleasure in the house,
If Woman is awa'.

The seventh regular toast was then announced, viz:

The Union of these State.—Its dissolution would be a second fall of man, perhaps as sinful and as fatal as the first, because without temptation and without redemption.

Hon. JOHN F. DARBY was called upon and responded. We were all interested in perpetuating our Union, dissolve it, and we have no place where Liberty could find a home. Mr. D. said that on an occasion like the present, it was expected that we should be brief in what we had to say; he believed the proud banner of America would continue to float over our heads as handed down to us, in its primitive and purity, and that we would hand it down unimpaired to our children and their children's children. He was proud to see that such of Society as the Horticultural, had sprang up among us, whose influences were perceptible to all present. After several classical illustrations, which were well received, Mr. D. concluded with a sentiment.

The eighth regular toast was then announced, viz:

8 *The States of Iowa and Illinois*—Vast garden spots; already numbering many reputable Horticulturists in theory and practice; may intercourse and friendship between us be perpetual.

Mr. JOHNSON, of Iowa, was called, and said, like his friend Gov. Price, he had been called to this board somewhat unexpectedly, and would have been glad had somebody better acquainted with the fruit growing districts of Iowa, been present to respond to the sentiment. He spoke of the various grades of fruit raised in Iowa, and said the Southern Agricultural Society had done wonders in spreading its cultivation. He gave—

State of Missouri—Prosperity to all her citizens and all their enterprises.

The following letter from Professor TURNER, was then read:

ILLINOIS COLLEGE, Sept. 14, 1850.

Messrs. ABBOTT, CHAMBERS AND ALLEN:

Gentlemen—Your polite invitation to the Horticultural Festival, in St. Louis, was duly received, for which you will please accept my sincere thanks.

There are no festal occasions in the Union, in

which I take a deeper interest, or which I think more useful to mankind.

It would give me, indeed, the greatest pleasure to unite with you on that occasion. But I am sorry to say that before the reception of your kind invitation, I had pledged my services to deliver a course of public lectures in our State, which I do not now feel at liberty to postpone or defer. Were it not for this, no private interest should detain me from the great gratification your letter presents to my acceptance.

But I have no doubt you will do much good; as you have done in your reports heretofore; and in that cause my heart is fully with you even though my person may be absent.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servt.

J. B. TURNER.

The ninth regular toast was then announced, viz:

9. *The Press*—It spreads the seeds of knowledge broadcast over the land, and they grow up to refresh, bless and direct mankind.

This sentiment was responded to by Col. CHAMBERS, of the *Republican*, Capt. PHILLIPS, of the *Union*, and D. H. ARMSTRONG, Esq., of the *Times*.

Gen. MILBURN, Vice President, being called upon, gave the following sentiment:

Peace with our neighboring cities and good will to the inhabitants thereof: let us remember that the fine fruits with which we are daily supplied from Alton, and from SIGERSON, of Vide Poche, shows the advantage to St. Louis of being NEAR those rival and growing cities.

The President remarked that the Society were indebted to the very good will of two gentlemen from the vicinity of Alton, who had ordered a selection of their choice fruits to be sent here to-day. But owing to some accident, and much to our regret, they had failed to arrive, and the gentlemen themselves had been obliged to withdraw to get the evening boat. The Mayors of our sister cities, Alton and Belleville, had been invited to be present to-day, and he had received the following reply from the Mayor of Belleville:

BELLEVILLE, ILLS., Sep. 13, 1850.

Messrs. E. ABBOTT, A. B. CHAMBERS, THOMAS ALLEN, Committee.

Gentlemen: I regret that sickness in my family prevents me from accepting your kind invitation to participate in the celebration of the Horticultural Society of St. Louis—indulging the hope that your useful labors to improve the horticulture of the country may be crowned with success, and wishing you and the members of the Society all the enjoyment which ought to flow from a festival such as you are engaged in, I remain respectfully, yours,

THEODORE J. KRAFFT,
Mayor of Belleville.

The President then gave the following sentiment:

Alton and Belleville—Our sister cities—enterprising and ambitious; we take pleasure in their prosperity, and wish them God speed in all honorable efforts to go ahead in good fruits and good works.

The following sentiment was sent in by Dr. WM. BRAUNMONT:

Horticulture—The most ancient of arts, the parent of agriculture, the basis of civilized society, the origin of social order, the primitive employment of man, commenced in Eden, venerated by the Egyptians, the Romans and the Carthaginians, as a special gift from their gods, perpetuated through all ages from the ancient East—may its moral blessings and rural benefits continue to spread and be improved by the lights of science to the utmost modern West, through the success, prosperity and influence of the St. Louis Horticultural Society of Missouri.

By J. LOUGHBOROUGH. *Flowers*—The natural types of those virtues and graces which lend to social existence all its charms.

Mr. JAMES SIGERSON being called on, excused him-

self, when the President remarked, that as Mr. Sigerson was a nursery-man and yet a bachelor, and withal a very modest man, he would beg leave to offer a toast for him:

Woman—At home in the nursery business, and unsurpassed in the art of husbandry.

Letters were read from several gentlemen, excusing themselves for not being able to attend.

The following sentiment was sent in by Judge COLT:

Flowers—Cultivate the flowers—let them bloom around thy pathway, and they will guard thee better than armed hosts of thunder bearing legions.

The hour, by this time, having considerably advanced, the ladies and a number of gentlemen guests withdrew from the Hall. Those that remained seated themselves about the head of the table, when conviviality and sentiment were indulged in to a late hour.

The proceedings were commenced by cutting one of Mr. SIGERSON'S first quality water melons. The flavor was superior to any we have ever tasted; when it was demolished—

Col. CHAMBERS, after some remarks complimentary to Dr. GEO. ENGELMAN, for his indomitable perseverance in investigating and developing the resources of our own soil, proposed that gentlemen's good health—which was drunk with applause.

Mr. RIEHL proposed the health of A. J. DOWNSING, one of the oldest members of the Society, and a successful cultivator of the soil. Drunk with applause.

A number of sentiments were drunk and complimentary toasts given to different members of the Society, for their successful efforts in producing from the soil vegetables and fruits of superior description and quality.

At this point a critical discussion ensued as to the quality of the natural wines upon the board. Two brands of native champagne were produced—Yatman's Cincinnati premium brand and the Hermann brand. After a fair trial and fair discussion of their quality, it was agreed that the Hermann brand was superior in every respect.

The latter part of the entertainment was one continuous feast of reason and flow of soul; to give even an outline is more than we can do with proper justice to the company. At eight o'clock the company separated, all highly delighted with the first festival of the St. Louis Horticultural Society.

SUCCESS OF THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH BETWEEN DOVER AND THE FRENCH COAST.—England is no longer an island. Her communication with the continent of Europe is now established and rendered free from all casualties of wind or steam. In a recent letter I mentioned that the experiment of passing a copper wire, in a gutta serena sheath, from shore to shore, was about to be attempted, and on Wednesday, the 28th of August, the work was fully accomplished. A printed message (House's machines being employed) was immediately transmitted with perfect accuracy, and all that now remains to be done is to complete the stations on each side and to carry the wire from Cape Grines, on the French coast, which was the spot chosen as the nearest point of land to England, along the shore to Calais, a distance of about nine miles, where it will communicate with the telegraph to Paris, already existing on the Great Northern railway.

The width of the channel at the part traversed by the wire is 21 miles, and the greatest depth 30 fathoms or 180 feet. The length of wire employed, in order to admit of sufficient play, was 30 miles, and its total weight was 103½ cwt. It was streamed out over a drum at the stern of a small steam vessel, and at every sixteenth of a mile weights of about 26 pounds each were attached to it in order to sink it at the bottom of the sea.

An Army of Monkeys.

Leut. Mayne Reid in his recent volume entitled "The Rifle Rangers," tells the following credible story:

"They are coming, and will most likely cross on the rocks yonder," observed Raoul.

"How—swim it?" I asked. "It's a torrent there!"

"Oh, no!" answered the Frenchman; "monkeys would rather go into fire than water. If they cannot leap the stream, they will bridge it."

"Bridge it! and how?"

"Stop a moment, Captain, and you shall see."

The half human voices now sounded nearer, and we could perceive that the animals were approaching the spot where we lay. Presently they appeared on the opposite bank, headed by an old grey chieftain and officered like so many soldiers. They were, as Raoul stated, of the *comadreja* or ring tailed tribe.

One—an aid-de-camp, or chief pioneer, perhaps—came out upon a projecting rock, and after looking across the stream, as if calculating the distance, scampered back, and appeared to communicate with the leader. This produced a movement in the troop. Commands were issued and fatigue parties detailed and marched to the front. Meanwhile several of the *comarejas*—engineers, no doubt—ran along the bank, examining the trees on both sides of the *arroyo*.

At length they all collected around a tall cotton wood, that grew over the narrowest part of the stream, and twenty or thirty of them scampered up its trunk. On reaching a high point, the foremost—a strong fellow—ran out upon a limb, and taking several turns of his tail around it, slipped off and hung head downwards. The next on the limb, also a stout one, climbed down the body of the first, and whipping his tail tightly round the neck and forearm of the latter, dropped off in his turn and hung head downwards. The third repeated the manœuvre upon the second, and the fourth upon the third, and so on, until the last one upon the string rested his forepaws upon the ground.

The living chain now commenced moving backward and forward like the pendulum of a clock. The motion was slight at first; but gradually increased, the lowermost monkey striking his hands violently on the earth as he passed tangent of the oscillating curve. Several others upon the limbs above made the same movement.

This continued until the monkeys at the end of the chain was thrown among the branches of a tree on the opposite bank. Here after two or three vibrations, he clutched a limb and held fast. The movements were executed adroitly, just at the culminating point of the oscillation, in order to save the intermediate links from the violence of a too sudden jerk!

The chain was now fast at both ends, forming a complete suspension bridge, over which the whole troop, to the number of four or five hundred, passed with the rapidity of thought.

It was one of the most comical sights I ever beheld to witness the quizzical expression of countenances along that living chain!

The troop was now on the other side, but how were

the animals forming the bridge to get themselves over? This was the question that suggested itself. Manifestly by number one letting go his tail. But the *point d'appui* on the other side was much lower down, and number one with a half-a-dozen of his neighbors, would be dashed against the opposite bank, or soused into the water.

Here, then, was a problem, and we waited with some curiosity for its solution. It was soon solved. A monkey was now seen attaching his tail to the lowest on the bridge, another girded him in a similar manner, and another and so on, until a dozen more were added to the string. These last were all powerful fellows; and running up a high limb, they lifted the bridge into a position almost horizontal.

Then a scream from the last monkey on the new formation warned the tail end that all was ready; and the next moment the whole chain was swung over and landed on the opposite bank. The lowermost links now dropped off like a melted candle, while the higher ones leaped to the branches and came down by the trunk. The whole troop then scampered off into the chapparal and disappeared.

A Word to Young Men.

Wishing and sighing, and imagining and dreaming of greatness, said William Wirt, will not make you great. But cannot a young man command his energies? Read Foster on decision of character. This book will tell you what is in your power to accomplish. You must gird up your loins and go to work with all the indomitable energy of Hannibal scaling the Alps! It is your duty to make the most of your time, talents and opportunities.

Afred, King of England, though he performed more business than any one of his subjects, found time to study.

Franklin, in the midst of his labors, had time to dive into the depths of philosophy, and explored an untrodden path of science.

Frederick the Great, with an empire at his direction, in the midst of war, and on the eve of battle, found time to revel in the charms of philosophy, and feast on the luxuries of science.

Napoleon, with Europe at his disposal, with Kings at his ante-chamber, and at the head of thousands of men, whose destinies were suspended on his arbitrary pleasure, found time to converse with books.

And young men who are confined to labor or business even twelve hours a day, may take an hour and a half of what is left, for study, and which will amount to two months in the course of a year.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Gentlemen's hats and the covering of umbrellas are made of gutta percha. The London Athenæum says:—

But this is apparently only a beginning. Last week a sailing yacht built of this substance was exhibited on the Serpentine in Hyde Park, which it was said could neither be sunk nor overturned. Various experiments were tried—all with success. The boat sailed equally

well full of water or empty. An attempt made to capsize her failed. We must add that she was built upon the life boat principle, and was provided with air cells which enable her to float and make fair way even when full of water, and carrying her cargo besides. The plan on which she is built is claimed as a new invention, which has been registered in the copy right of designs act.

THE TURN OF LIFE.—From forty to sixty a man who has properly regulated himself, may be considered as in the prime of life. His matured strength of constitution renders him almost impervious to the attacks of disease, and experience has given his judgment the soundness of almost infallibility. His mind is resolute, firm, and equal, all his functions are in the highest order; assumes the mastery over his business; builds up a competency on the foundation laid in early manhood, and passes through a period of life attended by many gratifications. Having gone a year or two past sixty he arrives at a critical period in the road of his existence; the river of death flows before him and he remains at a stand still. But athwart of this river is a viaduct called "The Turn of Life," which, if crossed safely, leads to the valley of "Old Age," around which the river winds, and then flows beyond, without boat or causway to effect his passage. The bridge is, however, constructed of fragile materials, and it depends how it is trodden whether it bend or break. Gout, apoplexy, and other bad characters, also are in the way to waylay the traveler, and thrust him from the pass; but let him gird up his loins, and provide himself with a fitting staff, and he may trudge on in safety, with perfect composure. To quit metaphor "The Turn of Life" is either into a prolonged life or into the grave. The system and powers having reached their utmost expansion now begin either to close like flowers, at sun-set; or break down at once. One injudicious stimulant, a single fatal excitement, may be forced beyond its strength while a careful supply of props, and the withdrawal of all that tends to force a plant, will sustain its beauty and and vigor until night has fairly set in.

ARABIC CATTLE.—Lieut. Lynch, on his return from his explorations of the Dead Sea, brought with him some fine specimens of Arabian cattle, which he presented to the State of Virginia, and the State has committed them to the care of Col. Castleman. The pair are described as 18 and 19 months old—the male weighed 980, and the female 689 pounds.—The bull is 4 feet 10 inches high, 10 feet 4 inches long, and the heifer of proportionate size. The limbs are as delicate as those of the gazelle, and yet as strong and as well set as those of a race horse. The heads have something of the delicate outlines of the deer, and their nostrils are thin and flexible, their feet are broad and flat at the roots, but they taper down till they are very thin; their color is a deep bay, and their horns are black.

They are said, when full grown, to stand 7 feet high; and the milk of the cows amount to three half bushels

each per day. These two animals are valued at \$10,000.

A BULL DESTROYED BY A DRENCH OF SPIRITS OF TURPENTINE AND GIN.—The frequent use of the above articles by our farmers, causes us to publish the following, from Mr. Cox, an English veterinary surgeon of good standing:—

In the summer of 1848, Mr. C. Waterhouse had a bull a little fired with desire for copulation; for which the owner administered some ol. tereb., the quantity was 4 ounces, mixed with 4 ounces of gin. Although the animal was a healthy one, with the exception above named, when they began to drench him, before all the dose could be administered he was dead.

Spirits of turpentine and the other essential oils should never be given to animals without being diluted with some one of the fixed oils. I have known cases where the ol. tereb. has caused instantaneous death, even though mixed with considerable water before it was administered to the animals.

COMPARATIVE LONGEVITY OF AMERICANS AND FOREIGNERS IN BOSTON.—Since the commencement of the present year, a table of the ages of Americans and foreigners at the time of death, has been kept at the City Register's office, from which it appears that foreigners are much shorter lived than those of native birth, but very few of the foreigners go beyond the age of fifty, and most of them dying under thirty. The mortality among foreign children is also very large, as their disorders receive, in many cases, but little attention from their parents until beyond the reach of human aid. If it were not for this cause, Boston would stand first on the list of American cities, as to good health; and with this drawback, shows smaller comparative weekly bills of mortality than either New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore or New Orleans.—[Boston Traveller.

A CHEAP CISTERN.—Every housekeeper knows the superiority of rain water for washing, &c., yet how few are prepared to realize this advantage for want of a cistern to receive it. I will give a method for constructing a cistern on a very cheap plan, which every person who wishes can have, and which will do until they can make a better one.

Take any large vessel or cask—it need not be water tight—a sugar hogshead will do—knock one end out—then dig a hole in the ground where you want it to stand, about a foot larger in diameter than your vessel, and six inches deeper; then make some clay mortar, with which cover the bottom to the depth of six inches; then set in the vessel and fill up the space around it with mortar well crammed in, and your cistern is finished.—[Ohio Cultivator.

ENEMIES OF THE WHEAT CROP.—Professor Agassiz says there have been collected in Europe 27,000 species of insects that preyed upon wheat. If they were all as destructive as the "weevil" has been with us, this grain would become wholly annihilated. So says the Maine Farmer.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—We acknowledge the receipt of valuable public documents from Hon. T. H. BENTON and Hon. J. B. BOWLIN.

We are also indebted to Rev. Mr. Peabody for a copy of the Family Christian Almanac, for 1851. Of all the almanacs produced in this almanac-publishing age, we regard this as decidedly the best, not only because of the pure morality which it inculcates, but for the beautiful manner in which it is printed. Its engravings—several in number—are really superb.

From Mr. J. Turner we have received several choice presents of fruit, amongst the rest a bountiful basket of the most delicious peaches we have tasted this season; also some very fine pears.

From Mr. Munson Beach we have received a beautiful pair of Dorking Chickens; they are growing remarkably fast, and bid fair to excell all the tenants of the yard. If any thing, however, they are a little too familiar, coming into the house, and finding their way to the pantry without any ceremony. Perhaps they have been petted a little too much. They are great on grasshoppers and other fresh meat, but turn up their noses at corn and such like "common doings."

The Farmer's Guide, No. 7, has been received. It is fully equal to the previous numbers, and contains several well-executed engravings; the frontispiece represents a Leicester Ewe and Lamb, and is worth the cost of the work.

A NOBLE BOOK.—We have received from the managers of the N. Y. State Agricultural Society a superb book of 944 octavo pages, entitled "Transactions of the N. Y. State Agricultural Society, with an Abstract of the Proceedings of the County Agricultural Societies. Vol. IX.—1849."

This book contains numerous fine engravings of cattle, fruit, views at the great annual fair, &c., and also a well executed map of Washington county. The work is an annual production, prepared by the Agricultural Society, and printed at the expense of the Legislature; thereby setting an example of liberality which it would be well for the legislatures of other States to imitate.

We find also in this book, besides the other usual matters, the address of Prof. Johnston delivered at the great Fair, and also the lectures of the same gentleman, delivered in the Assembly's Hall, in Albany, the past winter. From the concluding paragraph of the last of this course we take the following correct remark:

"It is remarkable how a man who is most obstinate in resisting any new idea or process in regard to Agriculture when suggested by a grown up man, I say it is very remarkable, how readily he will listen to the same thing, coming from the mouth of his own son. The boy tells what he learns in the school to his father. The father is delighted at the wisdom of his son, and he will not listen to any more suggestions in the same direction."

ger and an adult. What is suggested by his son goes through his heart to his head, and that is the way to many people's heads.

"I will make one other observation, and that is, that it is of great consequence that a farmer who owns a farm now, should make himself familiar with the best methods of improving the soil, in order to retain his position, for if he does not, another who has more skill, will drive him from his position and take his place. As the son generally thinks as the father does, there is no appeal stronger to such men as are most unwilling to adopt new methods themselves, than that to a father on behalf of his child and his future prospects. This is true, as a general rule. I know that you have a strong desire that your sons should thrive in their professions, as parents generally have that their sons should excel in their professions. This you only do, by giving them more knowledge than you have; as much, at least as the sons of others, bringing up their sons to different pursuits. I can make no stronger appeal to you to exert yourselves, to take the proper steps to secure that knowledge, if not for yourselves, at least for those who are to follow you in the same profession. I cannot but think that you will say with the old man, who in a remote part of Scotland, attended one of my lectures, and drank in, open-mouthed, all that I said, and who, after I had concluded, came to me with tears in his eyes, and told me he was too old to learn all that, but he would like well to have his son learn it. I hope you will all participate in that feeling, and see to it that your sons shall not be ignorant of what concerns so nearly their prospects in life."

POTATO ROT.—We are apprehensive that this fearful scourge is again about to visit our favorite esculent. We have seen some appearance of it in potatoes brought to this market, and the North Western Gazetteer, published at Galesburg, Ill., of the 11th inst., says: "The potato rot has made its appearance among us, and is destroying the crops in many places, entirely. The first we noticed of it in our own patch was last week, when we discovered slight indications of it, but this morning we were obliged to throw away three out of every five we dug. Others are worse off than we, many being unable to get a meal. Potatoes were offered freely last week for 25 cents a bushel, but to-day we doubt if any one is willing to contract to deliver them at any price."

TOBACCO DUST.—We last year procured from a snuff mill a barrel of dry, but damaged snuff flour, and prepared drugging boxes, covered with fine bolting cloth, with which we sifted it over the over the surface of any plants attacked by insects, and with success. The snuff should be applied, if practicable while the plant is wet with dew, and repeated after every shower. If the boxes are properly made, (like a common flour drudge,) and the snuff is perfectly fine and dry, but little time is necessary to go over an acre of plants. It is a good idea, and will be of great service.

Beat it! Yes, easy enough!

The Miner's Express talks of a beet 18 inches in circumference 36 inches long. The weight was not given. A neighbor of ours has placed one on our table, measuring 23 1-2 inches in circumference, and weighing 9 lbs. The seed was from the Patent Office, and is called White Silesian.—[Davenport Gazette.

Hear how Saunders talks about what one of his neighbors has done. A Silesian Beet weighing nine pounds! Why Mr. Gazette, we can beat that beet, and not half try. We raised a Silesian Blood Beet, in our own garden, in Iowa City, without any aid from our neighbors, that weighed 14 POUNDS. We placed it in the Grocery Store of F. P. Brosart, where it remained some time, amongst other monster productions of the soil of Johnson county. We had from ten to twelve more raised the same season, that weighed from eight to twelve pounds. We brought the seed with us from Ohio; and procured the beet from which we raised them from Judge M. H. Johnson, of Warren County; Ohio. And, what is still better we have some of the same kind of seed yet on hand. They are now several years old, but we continue to plant a portion of them every year, and believe them to be the finest variety, for table use we have ever seen. There is one peculiarity about them, for which we are unable to account. The original beet was blood red, and the crops which we raised the first two years, from the seed obtained from this beet was red, but the last two seasons they are white. Can it be that the age of the seed has produced the change in color?—[Iowa Republican.

THINNING FRUIT.—Those cultivators who have not had much experience in raising fruit, neglect to thin it consequently their fruit is inferior both in size and quality, and the quantity not large. Owing to its inferiority, it sells at a much less price than it would under judicious management.

One peach grower informed us that he had taken off two-thirds of his peaches, and as they increased in size and appeared too thick on the trees, he said that he was sorry that he had not taken off one half of the other third. One man complained to his neighbor that a certain variety of the peach, which his friend had advised him to cultivate, was a poor bearer. "Stop your complaint," was the reply, "until you sell your fruit." He raised on one tree three dozen of peaches, sold them at two dollars per dozen and was satisfied.

In many cases it is necessary to thin fruit, reducing it sometimes to one half the specimens, and sometimes a still greater reduction is necessary. Besides the injury to the fruit from too large a crop, the tree is also injured by exhaustion, which will stunt its growth, render it unhealthy, and cause light crops in future, particularly in the next season.

Experience in this business is necessary, for but very few persons can be taught by precepts the great importance of thinning fruit; so they will go on allowing too much to remain on the trees, till they gradually learn from practice, the great importance of thinning fruit.

**Great Book, Stationery, and
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REMOVAL.**

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Keeps constantly on hand a large supply of School Books, Paper, Ink, Quills, Steel Pens, choice Standard works, Poets, &c., &c.

E. K. W. is constantly receiving the Cheap Publications of the day, as they are issued from the press, which he is enabled to sell either at wholesale or retail at lowest cash prices. A larger variety can always be found on hand than at any other house, either east or west. He is also agent and receives subscriptions for the following periodicals:

Graham's Magazine, price \$3 a year; Godey's Lady's Book, \$3; Sartain's Union Magazine, \$3; Democratic Review, \$3; Whig Review, \$3; Knickerbocker, \$3; Hunt's Merchants' Magazine, \$5; Eclectic Magazine, \$5; Littell's Living Age, \$6; Braithwaite's Retrospect, \$3; Rankin's Abstract, \$3; Medical Chirurgical, \$3; Blackwood's Magazine, \$3; Edinburgh Quarterly, \$3; Westminster do. \$3; London do. \$3; North British do. \$3; the four Reviews and Blackwood, \$10.

Orders from the country promptly attended to. Having been engaged in the business nearly eight years, we feel confident from our experience, that we can give satisfaction to all who entrust their orders to us.

E. K. WOODWARD.

PAYNTER'S ARMENIAN TONIC, FOR

the removal and permanent cure of all diseases known to the human family, arising from an impure state of the blood, viz: Persons laboring under inward complaints, Rheumatism, Dropsy, Hysteria pains of the bones and joints, and affections of the lungs, and all those affections which females are liable to.

Corea have been cured with this Tonic, by Dr's Bush and Rawlins, of New York, and Dr's Williams and Reed of Canada, after the failure of purgative and metallic Tonics.

Prepared and sold by C. T. PAYNTER, 227 North Fifth street, St. Louis, Mo. Put up in pint bottles, and sealed.

PAYNTER'S EGYPTIAN ASIATIC CURE FOR CHOLERA AND DIARRHOEA—Emigrants going south or across the plains to California, will do well to take a few bottles of Paynter's Egyptian Asiatic cure for Cholera and Diarrhoea. It is one of the best medicines that can be taken. It has saved life, when all other preparations have failed. Health is one of the great blessings to man. Therefore don't go without it—be sure to get the genuine Asiatic made by C. T. Paynter, 227 North Fifth street, and sold by George Myers 32 Vine st.; Ellis' Grocery, corner of Second and Chesnut sts.; J. Brookie, Druggist, corner Morgan and Broadway, and Comstock & Bro., corner of Third and Pine streets.

THE GREAT ARMENIAN SALVE, made from Vegetables. This valuable discovery to the human family has been known to the proprietor for thirty years. Thousands have been relieved from pain and suffering, and some of the most extraordinary cures performed. It has been tested in Asia and Europe, in actions on the Ocean, on battle field, gun-shots, poisoned arrows, in Hospitals in London and by the late Sir Astley Cooper, K. B., and on this continent. Several of the faculty of N. York city, of high standing and reputation, and several private individuals of Mobile, Ala., and this city, all pronouncing it invaluable. This salve will also cure old sores, ulcers of long standing, tumors, fistulas, gangrenes, &c., in a short space of time—from five to fifteen days—with little or no pain to the patient. Also, mortification checked immediately.

Made and sold at 227 North Fifth street, and at Comstocks & Co., corner of Third and Pine streets, in tin boxes, with directions for use.

C. T. PAYNTER,

Only survivor that makes it in the United States.

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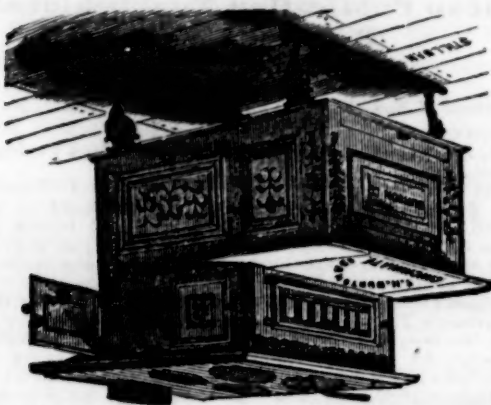
James Spore,

House, Sign, and Ornamental Painter,

78 Chesnut st., opposite the Postoffice, St. Louis, Mo. N. B. Glass set to order in any part of the city. Mixed Colors of all kinds for use. Oils, Glass, and Putty for sale cheap for cash. Flags, Banners and Transparencies for the different societies painted at the shortest notice. Druggists' Bottles labeled, &c.

DEPOT FOR A. ROBBINS'S VARNISHES.

BUCK'S

**Improved Patent Cooking Stove.**

The subscribers have now on hand, in addition to their former stock,

FOUR SIZES OF BUCK'S IMPROVED COOKING STOVES, to which we respectfully call the attention of all persons who wish to economize in the use of fuel, and who regard a good stove as better than a poor one. We offer the stove confidently as the best now in use, not only as a fuel saving machine, but one which by its capacity, durability, simplicity and perfectness, is adapted in all respects to the use of the kitchen. This stove combines all of the Buck stove, so well and so favorably known, together with another oven, with new and beautiful airtight patterns; the oven is nearly twice as large as that of any other stove in use, with flues to carry off all the steam arising from cooking of various kinds of meats, pastry, &c., and thereby preventing the mixture of flavors so much complained of in all other stoves, except Buck's Patent. The oven is warranted to bake as well and as quick as a brick one, and with less fuel, than any stove of like capacity. Wherever this stove has been introduced it has obtained a decided preference over all others, and will be found by any one giving it a fair trial, to possess such unequalled excellences in performing all the operations of cooking, and so great a saving of both labor and fuel, as to make it the interest of every family to possess one. The reputation of Buck's stove has been constantly increasing and extending so that stove inventors now find it necessary, in order to sell their wares, to copy as nearly as possible the form, and, then by diligent efforts, attempt to palm off their productions on the public as an improvement on Buck's Patent. The fact that such is the case shows that in their estimation Buck's stoves have a reputation beyond any thing else in the shape of a cooking apparatus. The Buck stoves are warranted to bake even at top and bottom, and to operate well in every respect. The Buck stove is sold only by the subscribers in St. Louis.

We have also on hand all the former patterns of Buck's Patent Cooking Stoves now so generally in use and preferred to any other by all who use them, together with Improved Premium Airtight Parlor and other stoves; box Coal, 6, 7 and 10 Plates, with the various patterns usually kept in this market, which we offer wholesale or retail, at the lowest market prices.

BUCK & WRIGHT,

209 Main st., opposite Missouri Hotel.

For the operation of Buck's Stove, we respectfully refer to the following persons, with hundreds of others, who have them in use:—

J. & W. Finney,
C. W. Pomeroy,
Fife & Kerr,
Geo. Pegram,
Dr. R. P. Chase,
Dr. Edwards,
Dr. Weble,
Jno. B. Casden,
Moses Forbes,
W. T. Christy,
Samuel Treat,
August, 1849.

Roe & Kercheval,
Elliot & Harriott,
Jesse D. Lindell,
Judge Wash,
Wm. Humphreys,
W. H. Pocock,
M. Wygant,
L. & J. Sherman,
Miss Woodland,
J. E. Woodruff,
J. Rosnbaum,

Mrs. Denison,
Mrs. Cheeny,
Mrs. Dean,
Geo. Partridge,
W. C. Lacy,
Spencer Smith,
N. Ranney,
D. J. Hancock,
T. O'Flaherty,
Geo. Cable,
Norman Cutter.

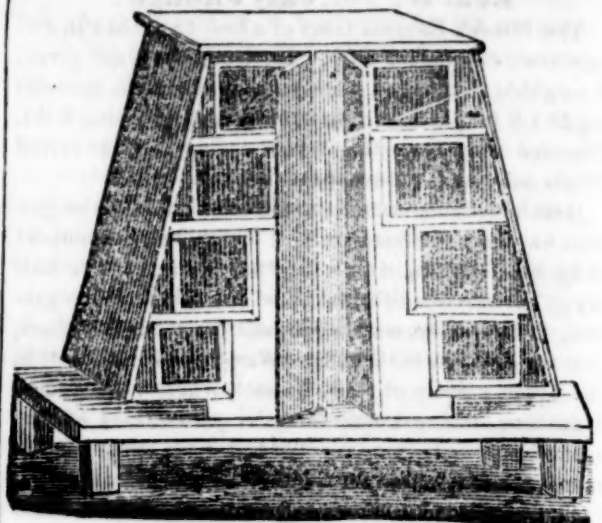
James S. Pool,

Locust street,

GOLD and SILVER LEAF, Dentist's Gold and Silver FOIL manufacturer, Agent for Stockton's Incurruptible Teeth, north side Locust street, between Fourth and Fifth streets, St. Louis.

Also, furnishes Regalia, Emblems and Stars for the Sons of Temperance and the Temple of Honor, from patterns approved by the National Division and Temple.

[July, 1849.]

**Colton's Patent Bee Hive.**

THE undersigned, proprietor of this celebrated Bee Hive, for Missouri and Iowa, will dispose of individual, township, or county rights, on very advantageous terms. Full directions for constructing the hives, and managing the bees, furnished to purchasers. C. SIMPTON.

St. Louis, Jan., 1850.

From Governor Slade.

I have examined a Model and Specification of Mr. AARON COLTON'S Improved Bee Hive, for which he has obtained Letters Patent. By an ingenious contrivance particularly adapted to the habits of bees, Mr. Colton leads them, as they descend in their work from the top of the hive to carry the work into the boxes attached to its sides. His hive seems to be a decided improvement on any that I have before seen.

WILLIAM SLADE.

Middlebury, Vt., January 20, 1846.

From Gov. Eaton.

Having examined a model of Mr. AARON COLTON'S Improved Bee Hive, for which he has a Patent, under date of December 31st, 1845, I am prepared to say, that I regard it as at once a very ingenious and useful contrivance. It is so fashioned, in accordance with the principles deduced from the well known habits of bees, as to stimulate these interesting little animals to the highest degree of industry, while at the same time it affords them ample room for their labors.

I have seen other ingenious contrivances in the shape of Bee Hives, which, from a lack of a perfect adaptedness in their mechanical construction, to the habits or the instincts of the animals for whose use, as a work-shop, they were intended, have failed of answering the purpose for which they were designed.

But in view of the correct principles which have governed in the construction of Colton's Hive, as well as the facility and convenience with which it can be managed, I believe it is superior to anything of the kind with which I am acquainted.

HORACE EATON.

Enosburgh, Jan. 30th, 1847.

The Special Committee appointed at the New York State Fair, at Auburn, Sept. 1846, in their report, speak as follows:

"The Committee unanimously recommend the award of the following premiums:

"To Aaron Colton, of Pittsfield, Vt., whose hive contains more advantages than any other with which we are acquainted, (1st premium,) \$500.

"The simplicity of this hive, the pyramid form of the main chamber for the bees, and the application of the drawers for the pure honey, warrant us in cheerfully recommending this hive to the public."

ROSWELL G. PIERCE,

R. BURNELL,

AMIRA ELDRIDGE,

Committee.

It also had the first premium awarded on the improvement at the bottom of the hive, at the New York State Fair, held at Buffalo, in Sept. 1848, and has taken the first premium at all the County Fairs where it has been presented.

The Editor of the Valley Farmer has been authorized by the owner of the patent to dispose of family rights, which he will do on reasonable terms; he will also furnish single hives at the patentee's prices. Full directions for constructing the hive and managing the bees furnished in all cases. Address, "Ephraim Abbott, St. Louis, Mo."

Great Sale of Fruit Trees

AT AUCTION.

The Whole Stock of a Nursery to be Sold at Auction, September 20th, 1850.

THE proprietors of the LAKE ERIE NURSERY, Cleveland, Ohio, being about to make a new change in their business will sell their entire stock of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Roses, &c., &c., at Public Auction, and without reserve, on WEDNESDAY, the 20th September next.

The collection embraces all the choice leading, and new varieties of Fruits: Rare Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, &c., and in extent of variety and correctness to name, is probably surpassed by no Nursery at the West.

The stock of Pears on free stocks, and dwarfed on Quince, is very good, and also Cherries, Apples, Peaches, Plums, Grapes, Quinces, Currants, Raspberries, &c., &c.

Among the Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, there are plants from one year's growth to an extra size, and the stocks of Mountain Ash, Scotch Larch, Deciduous Cypress, Norway and Silver Maples, European Lindens, Horse Chestnuts, Kentucky Coffee Trees, Garland Dentzin, Daphne Megereon, Monthly Chinese Evergreens, and Tree Honeysuckles, &c., &c., are especially good.

The stock of evergreens is large, and most of them having been twice transplanted, they are in an excellent condition to be removed.

The sale will be made in lots of from ten to one hundred trees or plants in each lot. The correctness of varieties may be relied upon, and purchasers can have the privilege of removing their trees at any time previous to the 20th May, 1851.

The purchaser can dig and remove his trees himself or the proprietors will do it for him, charging him the usual price of packing, &c.

The terms of sale unless otherwise agreed upon with individuals will be as follows—

For all sums under Twenty Dollars, cash.

Over Twenty and under Fifty, 30 days.

Over Fifty and under One Hundred, 4 months.

Over One Hundred, six months, approved Notes payable at Bank.

Catalogues will be issued about the 15th of August, which we will take pleasure in forwarding to any persons who may desire. All communications of enquiry, &c., addressed to the subscribers will meet prompt attention.

ELLIOTT & CO.

Lake Erie Nursery, Cleveland, O.

John H. Adams's

Wholesale and Retail

CLOTHING WAREHOUSE,

Southwest corner of Main and Market streets,
St. Louis, Mo.

Always on hand a large and general assortment of
MEN AND BOY'S CLOTHING,

which I pledge myself to sell as low as any house in the
United States.—Terms cash.

Oct. '49y

JOHN H. ADAMS.

J. A. Matteson.

Jno. B. Preston.

MATTESON & PRESTON,

COMMISSION, STORAGE AND FORWARDING
MERCHANTS,

No. 9 Commercial street, St. Louis, Mo.

AGENTS for the Michigan Central Railroad Line, and Transportation Lines on the Illinois and Michigan, Erie and Oswego Canals, and for Steamboats, Propellers, and Sail vessels on the Lakes. Also Commission Dealers in Produce, Provisions, New York Salt, and Hydraulic Cement. Particular attention paid to orders from the country, for the purchase of Groceries or any article in this market. Cash advances on property for sale or shipment. July, 1849.

Mexican Mustang Liniment.

The reputation of this preparation is increasing daily; the circles of its influence and unbounded popularity is deepening and widening, and the cases of pain and suffering and anguish relieved by its use are multiplying and increasing beyond all precedent. It goes like an angel, "with healing on its wings."

To persons who wish we can furnish names and residences of persons in the city and country who have been cured of Rheumatism, Sprains, Bruises, Burns, and the most loathesome sores; as well as Tumors, Cancers, and Wens---and of Horses that have been cured of Spavins, Ring-bones, Splint, Poll-Evils and Fistulas, and hard bone Tumors on the feet, legs, shoulders, and back. Almost every farmer throughout the country can testify to its wonderful healing powers---and none of them would be a day without it. Owners of Livery Stables, and Stage Companies can save hundreds of dollars yearly by using this Liniment on their horses whenever they become galled, chafed or crippled from any of the thousands of accidents to which their stock is subject.

Every man, woman, and child, is more or less subject to some accident by which this preparation may be of invaluable use to them---as it might save extreme pain and suffering, the amputation of a limb, mortification, and perhaps life itself by having a bottle of the *Mexican Mustang Liniment* at hand, and its timely use; and, in many cases, a heavy doctor's bill in the bargain. It is the best remedy ever used for Musquito Bites, or the Sting of Bees, Wasps, or other poisonous insects, and the bites of Spiders, Snakes, or rabid animals.

Principal Depot at Bragg & McLean's Drug Store corner of Market and Third streets, St. Louis---and for sale by Druggists and Country Store keepers generally.

House, Sign, Ornamental Painting and Glazing.

JAMES DONNEL respectfully acknowledges to his friends and the public generally, their liberal support, and informs them that he can always be found at the old stand, No. 12 North Third st. between Market and Chestnut streets, where he is prepared to execute all orders in his line. Having long experience in the business, warrants him in assuring his patrons full satisfaction in any work that may be entrusted to him. Particular attention given to Sign and Ornamental Painting, decorating of Churches, Glass Staining, &c. &c.,

Military Banners, Odd Fellows, and Masonic aprons executed in the neatest manner, and on the most reasonable terms, imitation of wood, marble, &c. &c.,

Copal, Japan, and White Varnish made to order. feb.

T. J. Vastine, M. D.,

HOMOEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,

Office No. 85 Chestnut street, up stairs, opposite the Postoffice
St. Louis, Mo.

Homoeopathic Books: Physicians' Cases; Family Cases with books; Globules; Sugar of Milk; pure Alcohol; Tinctures and Dilutions, Arnica Flowers and Tincture, &c., &c., kept on hand and for sale. [mar. 1850-ly]

Take Notice,

THREE months' extra Pay, and One Hundred

and Sixty Acres of Land will be procured for all who enlisted for five years, or during the War of 1812, and for all, including Volunteers who served in Mexico, and for the heirs of all who have died in the service.

Information will be given to relatives, Free of Charge, by writing, postage paid, to

G. F. LEWIS,
Detroit, Michigan.

Those who do not know what became of their friends, write when and where they joined the army. [Jan. '50-6m]

Commercial.

St. Louis, Sept. 19, 1850.

The news of bountiful crops of wheat in every portion of our land, the low price of breadstuffs in the European markets, and the failure of several of the heaviest produce dealers in the eastern cities (teaching a useful lesson to all who would monopolize the necessities of life,) have combined to very materially reduce the prices of wheat and flour; so that since harvest there has been a gradual reduction going on to the present time. It is difficult to say when the lowest point will be reached, but it would not surprise us to find prices ere long corresponding with those of 1842.

During the month just past, we have had refreshing rains, which, though they have been of great service to the agriculturist in bringing out his fall crop, and preparing the land for fall plowing and seeding, have as yet done but little for our vegetable market, as the high price of every kind of vegetable, butter eggs, &c., abundantly proves. Fruit is plenty and cheap, and potatoes are beginning to come in freely from the North.

TOBACCO—Supplies have considerably increased within a few weeks, while prices remain firm, with an active demand. Sales have been made within a few days at \$5 20 a \$10 85 per 100 lbs.

HEMP—Inferior to fair, dew rotted, \$81 a \$83, good to prime \$86 a \$87, choice \$93 per ton. Supplies are small, but market firm.

WHEAT—Mixed and spring wheat 45c. a 50c; fall 55c. a 75c. sacks returned. Market dull, with a downward tendency.

FLOUR—We quote common to fair country brands at \$3 75 a \$4 00; choice do \$4 15 a \$4 30; City mills \$4 45 a \$5 per bbl.

CORN—60 a 54 cts. per bushel, sacks included. Trade fair.

OATS—33 a 38 cents, sacks included. In demand.

PORK—Prime \$7 75 a \$8 00; Mess \$10 25 a \$11; clear \$12 per bbl. Demand very light.

BACON—Shoulders 3 1/4 a 4; sides 4 1/4 a 5; hams 5 1/4 a 6; canvassed 6 1/4 a 8.

BUTTER—According to quality, from 7 to 18 cents per lb. as usual. At retail, good table butter has been selling at 20 a 25 cents per lb.

LARD—\$6 a \$7 per 100 lbs.

CHEESE—6 1/4 a 7 cts. per lb.

SALT—G. A. \$1 25 a \$1 45 per sack; Kenawha 30c. per bu.

GROCERIES—Rio Coffee, 11 a 12 cents, wholesale, and in demand; sugar 6 1/4 a 6 1/2 c. do; molasses, 33 a 34c. do.

DRIED FRUIT—Apples \$0 00 a \$0 00; Peaches \$0 a \$0 00 per bushel. Retail prices.

GREEN APPLES—\$0 a \$0 00 per bbl.

CASTOR BEANS—\$1 75 per bushel.

POTATOES—60 a 75 cents, at retail.

COTTON YARNS—19 1/4 a 20c. by wholesale.

HOPS—18 to 22 cents per lb.

BEE SWAX—19 a 22 1/2 cts.

FLAXSEED—\$2 per bushel, at retail.

CLOVERSEED—\$4 50c per bushel, at retail.

TIMOTHY SEED—\$3 25 a \$3 50 per bushel, at retail.

HEMPSEED—\$2 per bush.

BLUE GRASS—Stripped, \$1 a \$1 25 per bushel; clean \$1 75 a \$2—retail prices.

TALLOW—5 to 7c per pound.

HIDES—Dry salted 7 a 8c., green 3 a 3 1/2c per lb.

CASTOR OIL—\$2 a \$2 10 per gallon.

HAY—50 cts per 100 lbs.

FEATHERS—25 a 30 cts. per pound.

EGGS—8 a 9c. per doz. by the bbl., at retail 12 cts.

WOOL—Good to fine tub-washed 25 a 30c. per lb.; merino, 35 a 40 cents.

STOCK MARKET.—Market well supplied, and a good demand for shipment. Shippers are paying \$4 a \$4 25 for common to fair Cattle, a better descriptions \$4 1/2 to \$4 3/4 per 100 lbs. Sales of good Hogs at 4 c. per lb. For good Sheep \$1 75 per head.

WASTE OF MANURE.—Little or no pains is taken to save the liquid manure of animals; no earth or saw dust is placed in or beneath the stable to absorb it; and the barn yard is so situated, that all the liquids that collect in it, run off into the street, or are so conducted to the adjoining field, where they are so little spread about, as to injure the crop by producing an immoderate luxuriance. Liquid manure is exceedingly valuable and the yards and stables of the farmer should be so constructed, that it may all be saved. There should be no outlet to the barn-yard, where the fluids collected in it can off. They should either be taken away, and applied directly to the land, or poured upon the compost heaps in and around the barn-yard. The turf about his fences and stone-walls, or the mud and muck from his swamps, should be collected in heaps or spread around his yard in order to absorb the fertilizing liquids collected there.—[Address of S. HART, Esq, before the Hartford County, Ct., Ag. Soc.]

One of the census takers of Mason county, says there is now living there, a maiden lady named Molly Perry, who recollects with much minuteness, Braddock's defeat. Her age is about 112 years. Her mental powers are much impaired. Yet she has physical strength sufficient to wait upon herself. She can relate many scenes of the Revolution, with the various in-door incidents so interesting to all.

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